CALENDAR

OF

AMERICAN HISTOR

1884

BY

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1884

TUESDAY

January 1

Proclamation of Emancipation, 1863.—Twenty-one years ago to-day, slavery was abolished in the Seceded States by President Lincoln's Proclamation of Emancipation. This ultimately freed nearly four million slaves and ended in the United States the reign of slavery, which had existed since the first cargo of Africans arrived in Virginia in 1620, which had been for fifty years the chief subject of political agitation, and which, in its final struggle for existence, cost nearly four billion dollars, and the lives of three quarters of a million men. This proclamation has been ranked with the Magna Charta and the Declaration of Independence, as marking a great epoch in the progress of English civilization.

Broken the bondsman's chain, and gone
The master's guilt, and hate, and fear,
And unto both alike shall dawn
A New and Happy Year.

—WHITTIER

1884

WEDNESDAY

January 2

Georgia Settled, 1733.—General Oglethorpe was a arkable English philanthropist, who, in 1732, obtained n King George II a charter to found a colony for the and oppressed, on the land which lay between South lina and Florida, and which he named "Georgia," the king. The next year, Oglethorpe and his col- landed on the coast of Georgia, and made a treaty the Indians, whom they always treated kindly. er slaves nor rum were allowed in the colony for years. Among the settlers were Moravians from a and Scotch Highlanders, and among the famous h preachers who came to visit them were Whitefield e two Wesleys. All went well in Georgia till the ts were forced into a war with the Florida Span- who also claimed their country Georgia became province in 1752, and, after the Declaration of ndence, ratified the Constitution on the 2d of ry, 1788.

1884

THURSDAY

January 3

Battle of Princeton, 1757.—One of the most important battles of the second year's campaign of the Revolutionary War was fought **107 years ago to-day.** The events of the fall of 1776—the possession of New York City by the British, and their victory at the battle of Long Island—had a discouraging effect on Washington's army and the colonies generally, and he was forced to retreat into New Jersey. By a brilliant exploit he surprised the British at Trenton and cut them off from Philadelphia, but on the 2d of January, 1777, hearing that Cornwallis was advancing with a powerful force, he withdrew his army in the night from Trenton, and marched to surprise the British troops at Princeton. Just before his arrival there the next morning, **January 3d,** he engaged in a severe battle with the enemy, which finally resulted in an American victory, with a loss only one fourth that of the British. This battle of Princeton enabled Washington to reach Morristown and establish his winter-quarters there *in safety.*

1884

FRIDAY

January 4

Civil-Service Reform.—The bill which Congress passed **a year ago to-day** was the first effective attempt by legislation to introduce a reform into the civil service of the United States. Ever since President Jackson, in 1829, removed seven hundred office-holders, the rule was established that "to the victors belong the spoils," and every presidential election was followed by the removal of hundreds of office-holders for political reasons only. Various unsuccessful attempts were made to check this corrupt practice, which Garfield described as "invading the independence of the Executive, impairing the efficiency of the legislator, degrading the civil service, and debauching the public mind by holding up public offices as the reward of mere party zeal." The first great step was taken by the passage of the "Pendleton Bill," in 1883, which aimed to confer offices not as reward for partisan services, but on strict competitive examination as to character, capacity, and education. It is hoped that in this way capable and deserving civil officers may be retained through successive administrations.

1884

SATURDAY

January 5

Mason and Dixon's Line, 1767.—In the last part of the seventeenth century, the undefined boundary line between Maryland and Pennsylvania was a constant source of dispute among the settlers of those two districts. The heirs of the original contestants—Lord Baltimore and Penn—finally arranged that a survey should be made to determine the disputed boundary.

Accordingly, Chas. Mason and Jas. Dixon were appointed "to mark, run out, settle, fix, and determine all such parts of the circle, marks, lines, and boundaries" as were undetermined. The work occupied three years, and was completed in 1767. This line has always been popularly supposed to be the dividing line between the free and slave States, but wrongly so—as slavery existed in Delaware (which is both north and east of the line) until 1868.

1884

SUNDAY

January 6

A NATIONAL HYMN FOR THE NEW YEAR.

God of the passing year, to Thee
  Our hymn of gratitude we raise ;
With swelling heart and bending knee
  We offer Thee our song of praise.

We bless Thy name, almighty God,
  For all the kindness Thou has shown
To this fair land our fathers trod,
  This land we fondly call our own.

Now freedom spreads her banner wide,
  And casts her soft and hallowed ray ;
For Thou our country's arms didst guide,
  And lead them on their conquering way.

When foes without and foes within,
  With threatening ills our land have pressed,
Thou hast our nation's bulwark been,
  And, smiling, *sent us* peaceful rest.

Rev. LEONARD BACON, D.D., LL.D., 1802–1881.

1884

MONDAY

January 7.

Fillmore, President, 1850–1853.—Eighty-four years ago to-day Millard Fillmore was born at Summer Hill, New York. Like many other American public men he rose to the highest position in the government with no advantages of early education. He first practised law, then became a Congressman, and was elected Vice-President, in 1848. On President Taylor's death, in 1850, he succeeded him as the thirteenth President of the United States.

During Fillmore's administration occurred one of the most important events of the anti-slavery agitation,—the passage of the Fugitive-Slave Law. Other events were the abolishment of the slave-trade in the District of Columbia; the organization of the territories of California, New Mexico, and Utah, from the Mexican land purchases of 1848; and in 1852 the deaths of Henry Clay and Daniel Webster. During this time also the publication of Mrs. Stowe's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" added greatly to the slavery agitation.

1884

TUESDAY

January 8

Battle of New Orleans, 1815.—This was the last battle of the war between England and the United States, which lasted from 1812 to 1815. It was "the only military achievement of the war which left upon Europe a memorable impression," for, to quote Monroe's despatch at the time: "History records no example of so glorious a victory obtained with so little bloodshed on the part of the victorious." General Jackson, with an army of 6,000 volunteers and backwoodsmen, successfully defended New Orleans against 10,000 British regulars, with a loss of only eight Americans. This brilliant exploit rendered the **8th of January** a memorable date in history, as the day which gave a brilllant close to a three years' war.

"And while they fell by hundreds
Upon the bloody plain,
Of us, fourteen were wounded,
And only eight were slain."

1884

WEDNESDAY

January 9

Connecticut Settled, 1633.—The first settlement in Connecticut was a Dutch trading-post at Hartford, in 1633, and nine months later some Plymouth traders settled Windsor. Two years afterward, emigration set rapidly in from Massachusetts and England, and, among others, Thomas Hooker with sixty Pilgrims marched through the forests and settled near Hartford. In 1638 the New Haven Colony was begun by an English company under John Davenport. It allowed only church-members to vote, and for a long time had no laws but those of the Bible. In 1665 it united with the Hartford colonists, and the two were called the Connecticut Colony, from the Indian name of the river, which is said to mean "Long River." Connecticut was one of the original thirteen States, and ratified the Constitution **Jan. 9, 1788.**

'T is a rough land of earth and stone and tree,
Where thoughts and tongues and hands are bold and free.

—HALLECK.

1884

THURSDAY

January 10

First Railroad in the United States, 1826.—The first railroad in this country was built in 1826, from the granite quarries of Quincy, Mass., to the Neponset River. It was two miles in length, and run by horse-power. The first locomotive used in the United States was one brought from England in 1828, and the first of American make was the "Tom Thumb," constructed by Peter Cooper two years later, and placed on the Baltimore and Ohio road,—the first passenger line. The first engine averaged about fourteen miles an hour, and "many people predicted in America, as they had in England, that it would never be able to move its own weight, but that the wheels would spin round and round upon the rail. Others thought it would destroy the value of farming lands by frightening all the animals, and would stop the raising of sheep, because their wool would be blackened by the smoke." In 1830 there were twenty-three miles of railway in the United States, and in 1883, 117,717 miles.

1884

FRIDAY

January 11

Alexander Hamilton, 1757–1804.—Alexander Hamilton, one of the greatest American statesmen, was born in the West Indies **127 years ago to-day,** and from his parents inherited Scotch vigor and French vivacity As a student at Columbia, in 1773, he gave promise of a remarkably brilliant career, and an essay which he wrote when eighteen, established his reputation as a leader in the cause of independence. During the Revolution, he served for a time as aide-de-camp to Washington. After the war he obtained great fame as a New York lawyer, and in 1787 he did a large part of the work of framing the Constitution. His *Federalist* papers in its support, and the wonderful financiering ability which he displayed as Secretary of the Treasury under Washington, showed still further his remarkable powers. When, in July, 1804, he was murdered in a duel by Aaron Burr, the universal sorrow was almost unprecedented in the annals of the country.

1884

SATURDAY

January 12

John Hancock, 1737–1793.—The name of John Hancock stands foremost among the early American patriots to whom we owe the wise establishment of our republic. He was born in Quincy, Mass., **January 12,** 1737, and after graduating at Harvard became a prominent Boston merchant. He was sent to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1766, and after the "Boston Massacre," which occurred five years later, he was one of a committee to demand of Governor Gage the removal of the British troops from the city. His glowing eulogy of the victims of the massacre was so fearless as to arouse the great anger of the British governor; and after the battle of Lexington he pardoned all the rebels but Hancock and Samuel Adams, "whose offences are of too flagitious a nature to admit of any other consideration but that of condign punishment." In 1775, Hancock was president of the Continental Congress, and in '76 signed the Declaration of Independence. After filling many other important offices, he died in 1793.

1884

SUNDAY

January 13

First Sunday-School in the U. S.—In 1780, Robert Raikes established the first Sunday-school in England, but the first in America was formed by the Quakers in Philadelphia, in 1791. Its constitution required that instruction should be "confined to reading and writing from the Bible, and such other moral and religious books," as the society directed. The New York Sunday-School Union was organized in 1816, and the American Sunday-School Union in 1824. In the early years of the school the time was occupied in hearing the children recite Scripture, but afterward question books were used, and now the "International Course of Bible-Lessons," arranged by a committee, is very largely adopted. The Sunday-school Library arose from an early custom of giving reward tickets, which after a certain number had been acquired, were to be exchanged for books. In 1880, the number of Sunday-schools in the United States was more than 80,000, *with* nearly 900,000 teachers, and *over six million scholars.*

1884

MONDAY

January 14

National Academy of Design, 1826.—The 14th of January, 1826, was "a memorable day in the history of the fine arts" in the United States, as on the evening of that day the National Academy of Design was organized by a company of artists who were discontented with the management of the American Academy of Fine Arts, which had been established in 1802. Among the thirty original members of the National Academy were Prof. Morse, Inman, Durand, Cummings, and Ingham. The new institution was an object of great jealousy to the old Academy of Fine Arts, which was by no means as prosperous, and which, in 1841, finally came to an end, its effects being bought by the National Academy for $400. The Academy occupied various buildings in New York till the present edifice on Twenty-third Street was completed in 1865, at a cost of $23,700. The Academy consists of Academicians (professional members) and Fellows (all lovers of art who pay a subscription fee of $100).

1884

TUESDAY

January 15

The Mound-Builders.—Probably the earliest inhabitants of the United States were the builders of the mounds which are so thickly scattered over the valley of the Mississippi and its tributaries, as to number several thousands in Ohio alone. These mysterious mounds, which are thought to have been used for purposes of worship or burial, were built mostly of earth, from sixty to ninety feet high, and of various geometrical and other shapes, which covered sometimes miles of ground. Many tools and ornaments have been found within them, which prove that their builders practised farming, mining, and clay-modelling, and were undoubtedly in many ways highly civilized. The mound-builders must have fashioned their great works more than a thousand years ago, but of their origin or subsequent history we as yet know nothing.

> "Whence, and why art thou here, mysterious mound?
> Are questions which man asks, but asks in vain;
> For o'er thy destinies a night profound,
> All *rayless and all echoless, doth reign.*"

1884

WEDNESDAY

January 16

"Yankee Doodle."—The origin of the tune or words of "Yankee Doodle" is by no means clear. Some ascribe the tune to a Dr. Shackburg, who is said to have composed it in 1755, in derision of the old-fashioned equipments of the colonial soldiers. Some English writers say that both words and tune were written in Cromwell's time, but that Yankee Doodle was their Nankee Doodle, and applied to Oliver Cromwell, referring to his entrance into Oxford wearing in his hat a single plume fastened in a knot called a macaroni. The words were first applied to the colonists when the British marched out of Boston before the battle of Lexington playing the tune in contempt. The British were afterward told they had been made to dance to it, and from that time it became popular with the Americans. British regulars, in 1775, used to sing:

"Yankee Doodle came to town,
For to buy a fire-lock;
We will tar and feather him,
And so we will John Hancock."

1884

THURSDAY

January 17

Benjamin Franklin, 1706–1790.—Franklin was born in Boston, **January 17, 1706.** Being a poor boy, he learned the printer's trade, went to Philadelphia and printed there a newspaper and "Poor Richard's Almanac," which became well known. He was a great student, and soon became famous for discovering the identity of lightning and electricity. He was afterward one of the framers and signers of the Declaration of Independence, and as Minister to France obtained for us a very important alliance with that country. In all respects he was one of the greatest and best of Americans, and did more good as a practical philanthropist than any man of his time. At his death, in 1790, he was spoken of by two great Frenchmen, Mirabeau and Turgot, as "the sage whom two worlds claim as their own," and as having "snatched the lightning from the skies and the sceptre from tyrants."

1884

FRIDAY

January 18

Daniel Webster, 1782–1852.—Daniel Webster, one of the greatest American orators and statesmen, was born **102 years ago to-day** in New Hampshire. He graduated at Dartmouth in 1801, and afterward entered the law. In 1807 he moved to Portsmouth, and six years later was sent as Representative to Congress. In 1828 he became Senator, was Secretary of State under President Harrison and President Fillmore, and was twice an unsuccessful candidate for the presidency. He died in 1852, his last words being, "I still live." As a statesman, orator, and lawyer, he was one of the greatest men our country has ever produced. He was a Federalist in politics, and was greatly opposed to the war with Mexico and the annexation of Texas. His speeches were wonderfully clear and condensed, as well as overpoweringly eloquent.

In vain the envious tongue upbraids :
His name a nation's heart shall keep
Till morning's latest sunlight fades
On *the blue tablet of the* deep.

—*O. W. Holmes*, on Daniel Webster.

1884

SATURDAY

January 19

Illinois Admitted, 1818.—Illinois (an Indian word meaning "The Men") was visited by French explorers, Marquette, Joliet, and La Salle, the last of whom returned in 1682 with a Canadian colony and founded Kaskaskia and other towns. Jesuit missionaries came later and described the country as a paradise. The settlers lived on friendly terms with the Indians and finally degenerated to their level. At the close of the Revolution the Illinois country was ceded to the United States, and four years later became part of the Northwest territory. Having been organized still later as a territory under the name of Illinois, and having suffered much from Indian wars, it was finally admitted as the eighth State to the Union, in 1818. Kaskaskia, Vandalia, and Springfield have successively been its capitals.

1884

SUNDAY

January 20

Benjamin Franklin's Moral Code.—The following list of moral virtues Franklin drew up when a boy, and for many years used nightly to examine himself upon them:

Silence.—Speak not but what may benefit others or yourself; avoid trifling conversation.

Order.—Let all your things have their places; let each part of your business have its time.

Resolution.—Resolve to perform what you ought; perform without fail what you resolve.

Industry.—Lose no time; be always employed in something useful; but avoid all unnecessary actions.

Sincerity.—Use no hurtful deceit; think innocently and justly; and, if you speak, speak accordingly.

Justice.—Wrong no one by doing injuries, or omitting the benefits that are your duty.

Moderation.—Avoid extremes; forbear resenting injuries.

Tranquillity.—Be not disturbed about trifles, or at accidents common or unavoidable.

Humility.—Imitate Jesus Christ.

Cleanliness. Frugality. Temperance.

1884

MONDAY

January 21

New York City Settled, 1614.—The settlement of New York was begun by the Dutch in 1614, when a bold sailor, Adrian Block (whose name is still preserved in Block Island), sailed through Hurl Gate and landed on Manhattan Island. About eleven years later, Peter Minuit, the first Dutch governor, bought the whole island from the Indians for £24, and the town was called New Amsterdam. Staten Island was named by Hudson in honor of the Dutch government—"Staaten," the Dutch for "States."

They christened it Nieuw Amsterdam,
Those burghers grave and stately,
And so, with schnapps and smoke and psalm,
Lived out their lives sedately. —E. C. STEDMAN.

Ah! t' was a dear old town, that lost Manhattan,
With its green shores, whose islands still had trees;
Oh! why was it obliged to grow and fatten?
Those modest days in worth outvalued these. —APPLETON.

1884

TUESDAY

January 22

Nine Rebellions in the United States, 1782 to 1865:

1.—1787. Shay's insurrection in Massachusetts.
2.—1794. Whiskey rebellion in Pennsylvania.
3.—1814. The Hartford convention.
4.—1832. "Nullification" in South Carolina.
5.—1836. Creek war in Georgia.
6.—1842. "Dorr Rebellion" in Rhode Island.
7.—1854. Border ruffianism in Kansas.
8.—1856. Mormon disturbances in Utah.
9.—1861. Secession of Southern States.

Thank God for rest, where none molest,
And none can make afraid,—
For Peace that sits as Plenty's guest
Beneath the homestead shade. —WHITTIER.

1884

/EDNESDAY

January 23

th and South Carolinas Settled, 1670.—The of the Carolinas was named from the French king, s IX, by Huguenots, who made an unsuccessful t to settle in 1592. Other equally futile efforts made about twenty years later by Sir Walter h. Finally, in 1663, Charles II of England granted ıole region to Lord Clarendon and seven other etors, who tried to colonize it according to a ıd Model" drawn up by the philosopher Locke, **January, 1670,** the first party of emigrants landed : coast of the Carolinas. The "Grand Model" ı attempt to keep all the power in the hands of a ɔbles, and entirely overlooked the rights of the . The plan was quite unsuccessful, and the colo- who were English, Irish, Scotch, Dutch, and ı, were soon governed in the usual colonial way. : southern part of the Carolinas, rice-planting was incipal occupation; and in the northern, hunting, -cutting, and beaver-trapping. In 1729 the prov- as separated *into North and* South Carolina.

1884

THURSDAY

January 24

Immigration into the United States.—Immigration to the United States far exceeds that to any other part of the world, and now forms one of the great phenomena of the age. No records were kept till 1820, but it is estimated that the arrivals were from 4,000 to 6,000 a year. From 1820 to 1880, more than three million Irish and Germans have come to our country, and within the one year 1882, enough immigrants landed to make three Cincinnatis or two Bostons and nearly an entire Philadelphia. There are more Germans in the city of New York alone, than in any German city except Berlin and Vienna.

"Here many a foreign accent which our God can understand
Is blessing Him for home and bread in this free fertile land."

1884

FRIDAY

January 25

Creek War in Georgia, 1836.—The Creek and Cherokee Indians were powerful tribes, who inhabited the land now occupied by Georgia and the surrounding States. From time to time treaties were made with them by the Government, guaranteeing to them the undisturbed use of certain lands in exchange for the transfer of other lands to the United States. In spite of these treaties, the State of Georgia, which had been impatient to possess the Indian reservations, finally passed laws abolishing the Creek republic, and took possession of most of their lands. The Indians appealed to the United States Supreme Court in vain, and in 1834 Congress organized the Indian territory, and tried to force them to emigrate. This unjust demand caused many murders, and, in 1836, very nearly induced a severe war. By 1838, nearly 27,000 were removed to the Indian territory, where they have in later years greatly advanced in education and material prosperity.

1884

SATURDAY

January 26

Michigan Admitted, 1837.—Michigan derives its ıe from two Chippewa words meaning "lake country." hough visited by French missionaries and fur-traders :arly as 1610, the first settlement in the limits of the :e was at Sault St. Marie, by Marquette in 1668. roit was founded in 1701. The territory was ceded the French to England in 1763, and a little later was assed by Pontiac's bloody wars and sieges. The ited States took possession of it in 1796, and in 1805 anized it into a territory. It suffered much from lians and the British, but was free from both by 1836, l admitted as a State, **January 26, 1837.**

"To the West! to the West! where the rivers that flow
Run thousands of miles, spreading out as they go;
Where the prairies, like seas where the billows have rolled,
Are broad as the kingdoms and empires of old;
And the lakes are like oceans in storm or in rest,
Away, far away, to the Land of the West."

1884

SUNDAY

January 27

THE INDIANS.

I venerate the Pilgrim's cause,
  Yet for the red man dare to plead.
We bow to Heaven's recorded laws;
  He turned to Nature for a creed.
Beneath the pillared dome
  We seek our God in prayer;
Through boundless woods he loved to roam,
  And the Great Spirit worshipped there.

Alas for them! their day is o'er,
Their fires are out from hill and shore;
No more for them the wild deer bounds;
The plough is on their hunting-grounds;
  Their pleasant streams are dry;
Their children,—look! by power oppressed,
Beyond the mountains of the West
  Their children go—to die.

—CHAS. SPRAGUE.

1884

MONDAY

January 28

Prescott, 1796-1859.—W. H. Prescott, the historian, who died just a quarter of a century ago to-day, was a grandson of the brave commander at the battle of Bunker Hill. While at Harvard College, his eyesight was so impaired by an injury, that he was afterward obliged to write most of his works by using the eyes of others. The success of his "History of Ferdinand and Isabella," which was written in this laborious way, placed him at once in the front rank of historians, and his later histories of the conquest of Mexico and Peru, and of Philip II of Spain, possess the fascinations of a novel. "His merits as an historian are a spirit of thorough research, an unequalled impartiality, and a remarkable clearness, animation, and grace of style."

1884

TUESDAY

January 29

ansas.—On the **29th of January, 1861,** the long ıte whether Kansas should be a free or slave State ettled by its admission to the Union as a free State. origin of the struggle was that Congress, in 1854, in r to leave the slave question open to the settlers of sas and Nebraska, virtually set aside the Missouri promise of 1820, by which they must become free s. The Abolitionists remonstrated in vain against this one petition being signed by over 3,000 clergymen. ration aid societies were formed in the East to send ee settlers, while hundreds of border ruffians from ouri hurried into Kansas to establish slavery. Fight- etween the two parties at last began, and not until great violence and much bloodshed was the ques- inally settled by the adoption of an anti-slavery con- ion in 1859, and its admission as a free State in

We 'll tread the prairie as of old
  Our fathers sailed the sea,
And make the West, as they the East,
  The *homestead of the free!*

From WHITTIER'S *Kansas Emigrant.*

1884

WEDNESDAY

January 30

Early American Coins.—In 1652 the Indian wampum, which was used by the early settlers as money, was superseded by the New England coinage of the Massachusetts Mint. The first were rude silver pieces known as the "New England coins," and these were followed by the "Pine-tree coins," (bearing the Massachusetts device,) which were used in the colonies for more than a century. The earliest copper coin struck in America was a curious one, coined by one Higley, of Connecticut, and bearing the words: "Value me as you please." During the Revolution paper-money flourished, but with peace came a multitude of new coins, struck by the different States, each generally bearing the State motto. There were also numerous "Washington and Independence" cents. When the United States Mint was established in 1793, its first issue was the Franklin cent, with the pithy inscription "Mind your business." Silver dollars were first coined in 1794, and gold eagles in 1795.

1884

THURSDAY

January 31

Resumption of Specie Payment, 1879.—The cost of the Civil War was so great that its expense, in one year, exceeded the cost of the Government from Washington to Buchanan. In order to raise the necessary capital, the Treasury department, during the first year of the war, issued 150 million dollars in greenbacks, and 500 million in bonds. Specie payment having been thus superseded, gold and silver currency disappeared, and greenbacks fell in value till at last $2.90 in paper had to be paid for $1.00 in gold. The Confederate paper-money, which was issued at the same time on a promise to pay certain sums at the conclusion of a peace, became utterly worthless, and caused intense poverty and distress at the South. The frequent change of value in the greenback currency of the North also caused great disturbance, and not until the first day of the year 1879 did the Treasury resume specie payment and at last re-establish a sound financial basis in the United States.

1884

FRIDAY

February 1

lification" in South Carolina, 1832.—The tion project of 1832 originated in the doctrine as- South Carolina, that a State has a right to declare States law null and void, and if any objectionable rced upon her, to secede from the Union. Under ership of Calhoun, then Vice-President of the States, a convention of South Carolinians de- at if a certain obnoxious tariff were not abolished **ruary 1, 1832,** the State should sever her con- with the Government. Medals were struck, the inscription: "J. C. Calhoun, First President outhern Confederacy," and armed resistance was l in case the Government refused to comply. not been for a compromise arranged by Henry d for the active measures and military preparations dent Jackson, the secession of 1861 might have acted 29 years earlier.

O Carolina, sister, pray come back!
Scorn not our flag, nor nightly talk of wars,
Lest Uncle Sam, once fairly on your track,
Should *make you feel the* stripes and *see* the stars."

1884

SATURDAY

February 2

Impeachment of President Johnson, 1868.—At the close of the Rebellion it became a difficult matter to know exactly how the "Secession" States should be received into the Union. On this question of "Reconstruction," the President and Congress unfortunately differed greatly. His policy was to restore the States to all their rights, with no conditions attached, and, accordingly, he vetoed many of the acts which Congress passed to guarantee their good behavior. He also removed the Secretary of War from office, and the hostility against him finally became so great that, on the **2d of February,** the House of Representatives voted to impeach him for "high crimes and misdemeanors." This was the first time, in the history of the United States, that a President had been put on trial before the Senate, with the Chief-Justice presiding. As the vote against him was 35 to 19 (not quite a two-thirds vote of the Senate), Mr. Johnson was acquitted.

1884

SUNDAY

February 3

Religious Sects in the United States.—According to the Census Report of 1880, the principal sects rank according to church membership as follows:

1. Methodists	2,508,792
2. Baptists	2,133,044
3. Presbyterians	805,202
4. Lutherans	684,570
5. Christians (Campbellites)	567,448
6. Congregationalists	383,685
7. Protestant Episcopal	342,590
8. Reformed Church (Dutch)	233,659
9. United Brethren in Christ	155,437
10. Mormons	110,377
11. Second Adventists	63,500
12. Quakers	67,643
13. Universalists	26,238
14. Unitarians	17,960
15. Moravians	16,112
16. Jews	13,683

The Roman *Catholic Church* claims 6,370,858 adherents, *but church membership is* not reported.

1884

MONDAY

February 4

Kentucky admitted, 1792.—Until shortly before the Revolution, Kentucky was a wild hunting-ground, inhabited mostly by Indians, and considered as a part of the state of Virginia. It was first explored in 1769 by Daniel Boone, a famous hunter and pioneer, whose daring exploits among the Indians, as well as his adventures in hunting and salt-making, attracted a great many settlers, principally from lower Virginia. Their numerous conflicts with the Indians gave to the whole region the name of the "Dark and Bloody Ground." In spite of several projects to render Kentucky independent of the Union, she was organized as a territory in 1790, and admitted as a slave State in 1792, by an act of Congress passed **February 4, 1791.**

Fleet in the race, firm in the field,
Their sinewy arms their only shield,—
The men of Daniel Boone.

—GALLAGHER.

1884

TUESDAY

February 5

:adville, 1877.—The wonderful growth of the min-
:own of Leadville, Col., shows the extraordinary
ity with which a Western city may develop. From
to 1878, the discoveries of rich veins of silver- and
yielding ore attracted many miners to the district.
mp was located on the site of Leadville in 1877, and
ext year the settlement numbered about 300 inhabi-
. The first town census completed **five years ago**
ay enumerated about 5,000 persons, and in 1880 the
ılation of Leadville was five times as great. The num-
ɔf Leadville mining companies in January, 1881, was
ve, representing the enormous sum of $72,000,000.
s in the short period of three years, the little miners'
p of 25 inhabitants was changed into a thriving, busy
ı of as many thousands, "from which daily poured
h an amount of wealth probably never equalled by
community."

"To the West! to the West! there is wealth to be won;
The forest to clear is the work to be done:
We'll try it, we'll *do it, and never* despair,
While there's light in the sunshine and breath in the air."

1884
WEDNESDAY
February 6

The French Treaty, 1778.—The treaty which Benjamin Franklin negotiated on the **6th of February, 1778,** between the United States and France, was one of the most important events of the Revolutionary War. General Burgoyne's surrender to the colonists in the autumn of 1777 had proved to France the valor of the Americans, and she at last signed the longed-for treaty, and promised substantial aid. The alliance so alarmed England that she sent over Commissioners to America who tried in vain to effect a reconciliation. When the news of the treaty reached Congress in May, a day was set apart for solemn rejoicing and thanksgiving. In addition to the actual aid rendered by France, the moral significance of the alliance was of the greatest possible importance and assistance to America, who now, for the first time, took her place among the nations of the world.

Sister in trial! who shall count
  Thy generous friendship's claim,
Whose blood ran mingling in the fount
  That gave our land its name,
Till Yorktown saw in blended line
  Our conquering arms advance,
And victory's *double* garlands twine
  Our banners? Viva La France!—O.W. Holmes.

1884

THURSDAY

February 7

United States National Banking System, 1863.—Before the outbreak of the Rebellion, paper currency was issued from many independent State banks, but the enormous expenses of the war made it necessary to establish a uniform and safe national banking system. Accordingly, **twenty-one years ago this month,** Congress passed a banking law (modelled on that of New York State) which is still in force. This law allows any association of not less than five persons, with a minimum capital of $100,000, to establish a national bank under certain conditions. They must deposit bonds with the United States Treasury to the extent of one third of their capital, for ninety per cent. of which bonds they receive from the Treasury, circulating notes ten per cent. being held to secure their redemption. Nearly all the States conformed to this system, and there were, in 1880, 2,076 national banks, with an aggregate capital of $456,000,000, and deposits of $900,000,000. Besides the national banks, there were in the same year 4,453 State, private, and savings-banks.

1884

FRIDAY

February 8

Secession of the South, 1861.—The slavery question, which had agitated the country for fifty years was brought to a crisis by the election of President Lincoln, the Republican candidate, in 1860. At the close of that year South Carolina declared that her union with the United States was dissolved. Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, and Texas followed her example, and in February, 1861, formed a union under the title of the Confederate States of America. On **the 8th of February,** they chose Jefferson Davis, of Mississippi, President, and openly aimed to establish a slave-holding nation in the South. They were afterward joined by North Carolina, Virginia, Arkansas, and Tennessee. At the close of the war the States were received again into the Union on conditions expressed in the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution. Their President, Mr. Davis, was captured in May, 1865, but after imprisonment for a time, was released.

> "With what blindness are we smitten,
> Brother thus opposing brother?
> In the nation's past 't is written,
> Freedom is our glorious mother."

1884

SATURDAY

February 9

Harrison, President, 1841.—111 years ago to-day was the birthday of General J. H. Harrison, the "Hero of Tippecanoe," and the seventh President of the United States. He fought with great bravery in several Indian wars, but gained especial fame in 1811, at the battle of Tippecanoe. This battle was a great victory over the Indian tribes, who were leagued together under the famous chief, Tecumseh, and when Harrison, in a second battle terminated the insurrection, he received the hearty gratitude of the whole Union. When he stood for the Presidency in 1841, he was known as the "Log Cabin Candidate," and after the liveliest political campaign then known, he was elected by an overwhelming vote. His death, the first of a president in office, only one month after his inauguration, caused general consternation and sorrow.

1884

SUNDAY

February 10

"**Rules of Living.**"—The Rev. Hugh Peters was one of the earliest and most honored ministers of Salem. After his return to England, he was hung in 1660 as a regicide. The following rules of living were given by him to his daughter :

Let thy

Thoughts be divine, awful, godly.
Talk be little, honest, true.
Works be profitable, holy, charitable.
Manners be grave, courteous, cheerful.
Diet be temperate, convenient, frugal.
Apparel be sober, neat, comely.
Will be confident, obedient, ready.
Sleep be moderate, quiet, seasonable.
Prayers be short, devout, often, fervent.
Recreation be lawful, brief, seldom.
Memory be of death, punishment, glory.

Whosoever would live long and blessedly, let him observe these rules.

1884

MONDAY

February 11

Edison's Birthday, 1847.—Thomas Edison, one of the most famous American inventors, was born in Ohio 37 **years ago to-day.** At 12 years of age, when a train-boy on the Grand Trunk Railway, he conducted chemical experiments and printed a newspaper in the baggage car. As a telegraph operator, he invented so many improvements in telegraphy that he was finally retained by the Western Union Company, with a large salary, for future services. In 1876 he fitted up extensive workshops at Menlo Park, New Jersey, where he is constantly at work on inventions. Among his most important achievements are the phonograph, for retaining and reproducing sound; improvements in the electric light; the aërophone, for magnifying sound; chemical electric printing, by which the sender of a telegram can produce a message in his own handwriting; the improvements of the telephone; and most important of all, his system of multiplex telegraphy.

1884

TUESDAY

February 12

incoln, **President, 1861–1865.**—Abraham Lincoln, was born **75 years ago to-day,** was "the most re-kable product of the possibilities of American life." ı in a Kentucky log-cabin, he succeeded, with few op-unities for education, and by sheer perseverance and rmination, in making himself a land-surveyor, lawyer, ician, and President. His simplicity and honesty en-ed him to the hearts of the people, and his firmness prudence proved him a rare leader during the dark s of his administration. He was, above all, a *good* man, th malice toward none, with charity for all, but with ness in the right."

A head how sober; a heart how spacious;
  A manner equal with high or low;
Rough but gentle, uncouth but gracious,
  And still inclining to lips of woe.

Patient when saddest; calm when sternest,
  Grieved when rigid for justice' sake;
Given to jest, yet ever in earnest
  If aught of right or truth were at stake.

—BROWNELL.

1884

WEDNESDAY

February 13

United States National Debt.—Before the Civil Var, the national debt was small as compared with its ıter amount. It was about $75,000,000 in 1791, and ras raised by the war with England in 1812, to $127,000,-oo. After that it fell, till in 1835 it was nearly zero—nly $37,513—the lowest point it has ever reached. In 860 it was about $64,000,000, or $1.91 a head, but the normous war loans, the largest of which was raised in **'ebruary, 1862,** increased it to the frightful sum of ;2,756,431,571, or $78.25 for every inhabitant. In 1882 : had been reduced to nearly one half of this amount. 'he interest and sinking fund of this debt are provided or by the internal revenue, which is levied mainly on obacco, whiskey and malt liquors, and by all surplus rev-nues from whatever source.

"A tenth of our national debt expended in public ducation fifty years ago would have saved us the blood nd treasure of the late war."—GARFIELD.

1884

THURSDAY

February 14

Telephone invented, 1876—The telephone is wholly an American invention, and was developed about the same time, independently, by Dr. Gray of Chicago, and H. G. Bell of Boston, who, as it happened, applied for patents on the same day, **February 14, 1876**. Bell's was not at first successful, but in 1877 he patented one which was entirely so. Professor Dolbear and Mr. Edison have since greatly added to the invention, until already conversations have been held between New York and Chicago, and the telephone has come into general use in all parts of the world. The principle on which it works is the generation of electric pulses by the vibrations of a diaphragm acted on by the human voice at one end of a conductor, which pulses cause similar vibration in a diaphragm at the other end, and reproduce there the exact tones of the speaker. In 1883 there were over 245,000 telephones in use in the United States, with about 100,000 miles of wire. The number of annual communications is probably *more than 120,000,000.*

1884

SATURDAY

February 16

Gold Discovered.—In February, 1848, some laborers excavating a mill-race for Col. Sutter on the south fork of the American River, in California, discovered in the sand glittering particles which turned out to be gold. The news travelled like wildfire, and an enormous emigration set in from all parts of the world. The first year $4,000,000 of gold were taken from the mines, and in 1879 more than two billions had been extracted from the Pacific coast. It is singular that the name **California**, given by Cortes long before any gold was known to be hidden there, was taken from an old Spanish romance, in which it was the name of an island filled with gold.

Lo ! when the last pick in the mine
Is rusting red with idleness,
Sweet bards along this sunset shore
Their mellow melodies will pour ;
Will sound unto the vaulted skies
The valor of these men of old—
The *mighty men of 'Forty-nine.*

—JOAQUIN MILLER.

1884
SUNDAY
February 17.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

(*From* LOWELL'S *Commemoration Ode.*)

Such was he, our Martyr-Chief,
  Whom late the Nation he had led,
  With ashes on her head,
Wept with the passion of an angry grief:
Forgive me, if from present things I turn
To speak what in my heart will beat and burn,
And hang my wreath on his world-honored urn.

  Nature, they say, doth dote,
    And cannot make a man
    Save on some worn-out plan,
  Repeating us by rote.
For him her Old World moulds aside she threw,
  And, choosing sweet clay from the breast
  Of the unexhausted West,
With stuff untainted shaped a hero new,
Wise, steadfast in the strength of God, and true.
His was no lonely mountain peak of mind,—
Broad prairie rather, genial, level-lined,
Fruitful and friendly for all humankind.
Our children shall behold his fame,
  The kindly-earnest, brave, foreseeing man,
Sagacious, patient, dreading praise not blame,
  New birth *of our new soil, the* first American.

1884

MONDAY

February 18

Vermont Explored, 1604.—Vermont was first explored by Champlain, a Frenchman, in 1604. No settlements were made till the next century, when lands were granted by Governor Wentworth of New Hampshire, who claimed the right from an old English patent. The district was known for a long time as the "New Hampshire Grants." But this right of giving grants of land was also claimed by New York, and for many years there was much disputing, as Ethan Allen and his "Green-Mountain Boys" did their best to drive off all New York settlers. Vermont (which means "Green Mountain") was the first State received into the Union, by an act passed **February 18, 1791.** It came in as a free State to balance the slave State Kentucky, which was soon after admitted. According to a newspaper squib of 1795:

> "Kentucky to the Union given,
> Vermont will make the balance even."

1884

TUESDAY

February 19

st of Presidents of the United States.

rge Washington .	1789–1797.	2 terms.
ı Adams . . .	1797–1801.	1 term.
mas Jefferson . .	1801–1809.	2 terms.
es Madison . .	1809–1817.	2 terms.
es Monroe. . .	1817–1825.	2 terms.
ı Quincy Adams	1825–1829.	1 term.
rew Jackson . .	1829–1837.	2 terms.
tin Van Buren .	1837–1841.	1 term.
iam H. Harrison.	1841.	1 month.
ı Tyler	1841–1845.	3 yrs. 11 mos.
es K. Polk . .	1845–1849.	1 term.
ıary Taylor . .	1849–1850.	1 yr. 4 mos.
ard Fillmore . .	1850–1853.	2 yrs. 8 mos.
ıklin Pierce . .	1853–1857.	1 term.
es Buchanan . .	1857–1861.	1 term.
aham Lincoln .	1861–1865.	1 term and 1 mo
lrew Johnson . .	1865–1869.	3 yrs. 11 mos.
sses S. Grant . .	1869–1877.	2 terms.
herford B. Hayes	1877–1881.	1 term.
ıes *A. Garfield* .	*1881–*	6 months.
ter A. Arthur .	*1881–*	

1884
TUESDAY
February 19

List of Presidents of the United States.

1. George Washington .	1789–1797.	2 terms.
2. John Adams . . .	1797–1801.	1 term.
3. Thomas Jefferson . .	1801–1809.	2 terms.
4. James Madison . .	1809–1817.	2 terms.
5. James Monroe. . .	1817–1825.	2 terms.
6. John Quincy Adams	1825–1829.	1 term.
7. Andrew Jackson . .	1829–1837.	2 terms.
8. Martin Van Buren .	1837–1841.	1 term.
9. William H. Harrison.	1841.	1 month.
10. John Tyler	1841–1845.	3 yrs. 11 mos.
11. James K. Polk . .	1845–1849.	1 term.
12. Zachary Taylor . .	1849–1850.	1 yr. 4 mos.
13. Millard Fillmore . .	1850–1853.	2 yrs. 8 mos.
14. Franklin Pierce . .	1853–1857.	1 term.
15. James Buchanan . .	1857–1861.	1 term.
16. Abraham Lincoln .	1861–1865.	1 term and 1 mo
17. Andrew Johnson . .	1865–1869.	3 yrs. 11 mos.
18. Ulysses S. Grant . .	1869–1877.	2 terms.
19. Rutherford B. Hayes	1877–1881.	1 term.
20. James A. *Garfield* .	*1881–*	6 months.
21. *Chester A. Arthur* .	*1881–*	

1884

THURSDAY

February 21

Sewing-Machine, 1842.—No history of the progress of the United States would be complete without mention of the invention of the sewing-machine. Many years before this invention much public sympathy was aroused by the poor sewing-women, whose lives were wasted in

> " Sewing at once with a double thread
> A shroud as well as a shirt."

But not until 1842 were any efforts at alleviating their labor successful. On the **21st of February**, in that year, G. J. Greenough, of Washington, patented a sewing-machine, but the first practical working one was invented in 1845 by Elias Howe, of Cambridge, Mass., and patented the next year. Wilson patented an improved machine in 1850; Grover & Baker, and Singer, in 1851; and Gibbs in '57. In 1860 the importance of the invention to the manufacturing interests of the United States was estimated at *$342,000,000 annually.*

1884

FRIDAY

February 22

Vashington's Birthday, 1732–1799. — George shington was born in Virginia **152 years ago to-** r, and as a boy showed great fondness for land-sur- ing and military exercises. At the age of 22 he fought vely in the French and Indian war; married Mrs. Custis years later; became a member of the Virginia Assem- of which Patrick Henry declared him to be unques- ıably the greatest man; as commander-in-chief led the ntry successfully through the war of the Revolution; red two terms as President, from 1789 to 1797; and died 799, mourned alike by friends and enemies. "Eternity ıe will reveal to the human race its debt of gratitude the peerless and immortal name of Washington."— ARFIELD.).

Welcome to the day returning,
  Dearer still as ages flow,
While the torch of Faith is burning,
  Long as Freedom's altars glow!
See the hero whom it gave us
  Slumbering on a mother's breast;
For the arm he stretched to save us,
  Be its morn forever blest!

LOWELL'S Ode for Washington's Birthday.

1884

SATURDAY

February 23

J. R. Lowell, born 1819.—James R. Lowell was born Cambridge on Washington's birthday, 1819. After duating at Harvard and being admitted to the bar, he ided to devote himself entirely to literary pursuits. om 1841 to 1846 he published several volumes of ems, but he first gained a wide reputation, in 1848, by publication of his "Biglow Papers," a keen and witty itical satire on the Mexican War and slavery. His able for Critics" and "Vision of Sir Launfal" also peared in 1848. His most delightful prose works are among My Books," and "My Study Windows," 1870. er two visits to Europe, Mr. Lowell succeeded Mr. ngfellow as professor at Harvard, and in 1880 was pointed Minister to England, in which important posi- n Americans feel proud to have so worthy a represen- ve of their country.

Strength to his hours of manly toil!
Peace to his starlit dreams!
Who loves alike the furrowed soil,
The music-haunted streams!

—O. W. HOLMES to *Lowell*.

1884

SUNDAY

February 24

Presbyterianism in the United States.—The Presbyterian Church in the United States was founded by persecuted emigrants from Scotland, Ireland, France, and Germany. One of the earliest ministers was Mackenzie from Ireland, and among the first churches were those founded in New Jersey in 1692 and in Philadelphia in 1698. The first Presbyterian synod was founded in 1716 at Philadelphia, of four presbyteries, Philadelphia, Newcastle, Snow Hill, and Long Island. Various disagreements about adopting the Westminster Confession and about revivals, led to the formation of a new synod in New York in 1741, but 17 years after these were reunited. In 1766 the synod agreed to meet in convention with the Congregationalists, and in 1788 the first General Assembly embraced New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Virginia, and the Carolinas. In 1811 the "Cumberland Presbytery" was founded, and in 1837-38 occurred the division into New School and Old School Presbyterians. At the outbreak of the Rebellion the South Presbyterian Church was formed. In 1869 the New School and Old School divisions were reunited. In 1880, they ranked third numerically, *805,202* church-members.

1884

MONDAY

February 25

History of the United States Bank, 1791-1811; 1816-1842.—The United States Bank, which was established by Alexander Hamilton, began operations **93 years ago to-day**. For twenty years it was successful, but its charter, which expired in 1811, was not then renewed. The war with England in 1812 rendered a new bank desirable, and in 1816 a second United States Bank was established with a 20 years' charter. As the term of the charter drew near its close, President Jackson declared his intention of vetoing any act for its renewal, as he considered the bank unconstitutional. In 1832, just before the presidential election, Jackson's opponents pressed the bill, hoping that his veto would lose him a re-election. In spite of all opposition he persisted in his veto, but was, notwithstanding, re-elected. His removal of the public deposits from the bank in 1833, caused Congress to pass a vote of censure upon him, which was finally expunged in 1837. After its national charter expired, the bank continued for a few years under one from Pennsylvania, but was finally broken up in consequence of the great financial crisis of 1837.

So I 'll jest answer plump an' frank,
Yes, Sir, I *am agin a Bank.*

—LOWELL'S *Biglow Papers.*

1884

TUESDAY

February 26

Texas annexed, 1845.—Texas was first explored in 1684 by La Salle, and afterward came into the possession of Spain as part of Mexico. When Mexico became a republic and abolished slavery, Texas tried to assert its independence, as most of the Texan settlers were slaveholders. The South assisted Texas, which they wished to add to the Union, but the North greatly opposed the annexation of a slave State forty times as large as Massachusetts. Lowell's "Biglow Papers" expressed the feelings of the North on this point, but the bill to annex Texas finally passed in **February, 1845.** In return for this great addition of territory, the United States assumed the Texas debt of $7,500,000, which occasioned the current saying that "**Texas** is only **Taxes** with the letters differently arranged."

> Ain't it cute to see a Yankee
> Take sech everlastin' pains,
> All to git the Devil's thankee
> Helpin' on 'em weld their chains?
>
> —LOWELL'S *Biglow Papers*.

1884

WEDNESDAY

February 27

Longfellow's Birthday, 1807. — Henry W. Longfellow, "the bard whose sweet songs more than aught beside have bound two worlds together," was born **77 years ago to-day.** He graduated at Bowdoin College with Hawthorne in 1825, and was then appointed professor there. He spent four years in Europe, and from 1835 to 1854 was professor at Harvard, occupying in Cambridge the historical old Craigie House. He published "Hyperion" in 1839, "Evangeline" in 1847, "Kavanagh" in 1849, "Hiawatha" in 1855, and a translation of Dante from 1867 to 1870. Besides these, many other poems and translations won for him the place of the most popular household poet in America and England. At his death, in March, 1882, he was mourned by thousands to whom

> "His gracious presence upon earth
> Was as a fire upon a hearth;
> As pleasant words at morning sung,
> The words that dropped from his sweet tongue
> Strengthened our hearts, or, heard at night,
> Made all our slumbers soft and light."

1884

FRIDAY

February 29

Deerfield Massacre, 1704.—The massacre at Deerfield was one of the chief events of the early French and Indian wars, which lasted at intervals from 1689 to 1763. They were caused by the French and English struggle for supremacy in America, and the position which these two nations occupied toward the Indians was thus described by a savage chief to an Englishman: "You and the French are like the two edges of a pair of shears, and we are the cloth which is cut to pieces between you." In these wars the Indians were greatly aided by the French. During Queen Anne's war, 1702–1713, a party of Frenchmen came down from Canada on snowshoes, and **on the last day of February, 1704,** assisted the Indians in a terrible attack on the village of Deerfield, Mass. All the inhabitants who survived were carried off with them to Canada and sold as captives.

> Undaunted they came every peril to dare,
> Of tribes fiercer far than the wolf in his lair;
> Of the wild irksome woods, where in ambush they lay,
> Of their terror by night and their arrow by day.
>
> —A. C. Coxe.

1884

SATURDAY

March 1

"Dred Scott Case," 1857.—The famous "Dred Scott" decision, which created so much excitement during President Buchanan's administration, was a verdict which Judge Taney of the Supreme Court announced on **March 1, 1857,** relative to a fugitive slave of that name. He declared that for more than a century previous to the Declaration of Independence, negroes had been regarded as beings of an inferior order, and so unfit to associate with the white man that they had no rights which he was bound to respect, and that the Constitution did not recognize the citizenship of negroes. He decided, therefore, that Dred Scott could not bring a suit into the Federal Court, because he was not a citizen. This decision was regarded in the North as an outrage, and was indignantly denounced by all anti-slavery champions.

> **Make** all men peers before the law,
> **Take** hands from off the negro's throat,
> **Give** *black and white* an equal vote.
>
> —WHITTIER.

1884

SUNDAY

March 2

The Ship of State.

Thou, too, sail on, O Ship of State!
Sail on, O Union, strong and great!
Humanity, with all its fears,
With all the hopes of future years,
Is hanging breathless on thy fate!
We know what master laid thy keel,
What workmen wrought thy ribs of steel,
Who made each mast and sail and rope,
In what a forge and what a heat
Were shaped the anchors of thy hope!
Sail on! nor fear to breast the sea!
Our hearts, our hopes, are all with thee;
Our hearts, our hopes, our prayers, our tears,
Our faith triumphant o'er our fears,
Are all with thee! are all with thee!

—LONGFELLOW.

1884

MONDAY

March 3

Iowa admitted, 1846.—Iowa (meaning the "beautiful country") was originally part of the great French tract of Louisiana ceded to the United States in 1803. Its first white settlement was made in 1778 by a Frenchman, Du Buque, who built a fort, traded with the Indians, and engaged in lead-mining near the spot which now bears his name. Emigrants from Illinois settled the towns of Burlington and Dubuque in 1833, and the next year the whole district was placed under the jurisdiction of Michigan, and in 1836, of Wisconsin. Two years later the territory of Iowa was organized, which then included Minnesota and Dakota. On the **3d of March, 1845,** Congress passed an act for its admission, which took place the next year, as the 29th State in the Union. Its capital was fixed at Des Moines, 1857. It is now the most agricultural of all the United States.

> "And thy broad plains, with welcome warm,
> Receive *the onward-pressing* swarm."

1884

TUESDAY

March 4

Presidential Inauguration Day.—Washington's inauguration took place in New York, on April 30, 1789. That of John Adams, who was the first President inaugurated on **the 4th of March,** occurred in Philadelphia, in **1797**; and that of Thomas Jefferson, the first who was inaugurated in Washington, on March 4, 1801.

Washington's inauguration in Federal Hall, New York, was accompanied by such enthusiasm, cheerings, gun-dischargings, and bell-pealings as had seldom been heard before. Long after the oath had been administered, the air resounded with loud shouts of "Long live George Washington, President of the United States!" Jefferson's inauguration in the "Forest City," as Washington in its first years appeared, presented a great contrast. In plain citizen's dress he rode his favorite horse through Pennsylvania Avenue (then a mere footpath), fastened it to the palisades of Capitol Hill, and entered the Senate-chamber, where he delivered a model address. Every President is required on inauguration day to take the oath: "I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution *of the United States.*"

1884

VEDNESDAY

March 5

ston Massacre, 1770.—One of the events which led the Revolution of 1776, was the "Boston cre," which created intense excitement among the sts. While Governor Gage and his British troops ed Boston, there were often quarrels between the s and the young men of the town, who used to call 'lobsters," "bloody backs," etc., referring to their ats. One moonlight evening, **March 5, 1770,** the s and town boys got into such a quarrel that Capt. Preston came out with the guard. The increasing, and a dozen or more men advancing icks, Capt. Preston at last gave the word "Fire," ght men were killed and three wounded. Capt. n was tried for murder, but acquitted, and the 5th rch was long observed as the anniversary of the Boston Massacre.

The stones of King Street still are red,
And yet the bloody red coats come;
I hear their pacing sentry's tread,
The click of steel, the tap of drum.

—O. W. Holmes.

1884
FRIDAY
March 7

elphia Founded, 1682.—The land on which
ıia now lies was bought from the Indians by
es, and sold by them **early in March, 1682,**
ı Penn, who planted there the " city of brotherly
Ie built it on the plan of the city of Babylon. It
nsisted of three or four little cottages, and some
ıple lived in hollow trees. Almost down to the
n it remained a 'faire green country town.'
es were generally of brick or stone, surrounded
ıs. A Philadelphia shop in those days was a
ıouse, with goods in the lower rooms, and with
; hung over the door to show what was sold
[n the street was no pavement, except a narrow
n the sidewalk. In 1772, a stage-coach called
ing Machine' was advertised to go from Phila-
ı New York in the remarkably short time of two
Higginson.) The population of Philadelphia in
897,170.

lightful land which is washed by the Delaware's waters,
ı sylvan shades the name of Penn the apostle,
he banks *of its beautiful* stream the city he founded.

—LONGFELLOW.

1884

SATURDAY

March 8

uaker Persecutions in Massachusetts, 1656–
).—The sect of Quakers was established in England
George Fox in 1644. When, soon after, they began
migrate to America, the Puritans did their best to
) them away from Massachusetts; for, though they
: in many respects wise and good, they would not
taxes, or acknowledge the government, or fight; so
earlier settlers preferred that they should found a
rate colony. In 1656 two Quakeresses arrived in
:on, but in five weeks were expelled from the colony,
severe penalties were enacted against their return.
the more severe the laws the more eagerly the
ıkers came to Boston, and at last the authorities
lared that all who refused banishment must suffer
th. In 1659 and 1660 three men and one woman
e actually hung on Boston Common, but the events
ıted such horror that the law was repealed, and the
ıkers were gradually whipped out of the colony.

> Meanwhile shall we learn, in our ease, to forget
> To the martyrs *of Truth and of* Freedom our debt?
>
> —WHITTIER'S *Quaker Alumni.*

1884

SUNDAY

March 9

The Quaker of the Olden Time.

The Quaker of the olden time!
  How calm and firm and true,
Unspotted by its wrong and crime,
  He walked the dark earth through!
The lust of power, the love of gain,
  The thousand lures of sin
Around him, had no power to stain
  The purity within.

O spirit of that early day,
  So pure and strong and true,
Be with us in the narrow way
  Our faithful fathers knew;
Give strength the evil to forsake,
  The cross of truth to bear,
And love and reverent fear to make
  Our daily lives a prayer!

—WHITTIER.

1884

MONDAY

March 10

ican War, 1846–'48.—The cause of the Mexi-
ar was a dispute about the boundary line between
and Mexico. The war awakened little enthusiasm
Eastern States, but the South sent many men to aid
l Scott and General Taylor against the Mexicans.
two generals, with comparatively small armies, won
; of brilliant victories, though the odds were greatly
them, and brought the war successfully to an end
8. Its chief events were the battle of Buena
where Taylor beat Santa Anna, the brave Mexican
nder, the taking of Vera Cruz by Scott, and the
pture of the city of Mexico with its 140,000 inhabi-
y an army of less than 6,000 men. By the treaty
adalupe Hidalgo, ratified **March 10, 1848,**
gave to the United States, New Mexico, Upper
ia, and the disputed border district of Texas.

Ez fer war, I call it murder,
There you hev it plain an' flat;
I don't want to go no furder
Than my Testyment for that.

—LOWELL.

1884

TUESDAY

March 11

umner, 1811–1874.—Charles Sumner, one of the ıtest American statesmen and orators, was born in ton, in January, 1811. After graduating at Harvard, ıg admitted to the bar, and visiting Europe, he made political début with an oration against the Mexican r, which Mr. Cobden pronounced the noblest modern tribution to the cause of peace. In 1851 he was :ted United States Senator, and his great personal :e, strong will, and oratorical powers soon rendered ı one of the leading men in the country. He was one the most powerful anti-slavery champions, and while ivering his famous speech against the Kansas bill in ;6, he was so assaulted by Preston Brooks as to be dis-ed for several years. **Ten years ago to-day** he died, ring seen his life-work completed in the abolishment of very.

"His was the troubled life, the conflict and the pain,
The grief, the bitterness of strife, the honor without stain."

1884

NEDNESDAY

March 12

elaware Settled, 1638.—As early as 1610 an Eng-
ıan, Lord De La Ware, explored the river which took
ıame, but no permanent settlements were made for
ty-eight years. Delaware was the only colony settled
ıe Swedes. Gustavus Adolphus, the great king of
len, intended to found in America a colony which
ld be a refuge for oppressed Christendom, where no
ry should exist, and which should be "the jewel of his
dom." As he died before his plan could be accom-
ed, it was through the efforts of a wise Swedish
sman, Oxensteirn, that a company of Swedes landed
elaware Bay early in **March, 1638,** and built a fort,
h they called after their young queen Christiana, near
present site of Wilmington. Many more settlers
e over, and the colony prospered for seventeen years,
ı it at last became merged in the New Netherlands,
ıg to Dutch quarrels and jealousies. The Swedish
er in America thus came to an end in 1655.

Thrice welcome to thy sisters of the East,
To the strong tillers of a rugged home,
With spray-wet locks to Northern winds released,
And hardy feet o'*er-swept by* ocean's foam.

—WHITTIER. *To Delaware.*

1884

THURSDAY

March 13

Alaska Bought, 1867.—Few people realize that the st central city between the east and west limits of ited States territory is San Francisco, as the recent ad-on of the great northwest region of Alaska extends as to the west of California, as Maine to the east. laska" (meaning "Great Region") comprises an area nore than half a million square miles, and a population bout thirty thousand, of whom more than five sixths native Indians, and the rest Russians and Americans. ska was long owned by the Russians, but by a treaty nged **March 13, 1867**, the whole territory was bought the United States for about seven million dollars. m the vast fisheries and fur trade, which are its main istries, the Government derives a large income.

Land of fox and deer and sable,
Shore end of our western cable!
All ye icebergs! make salaam—
You belong to Uncle Sam!

—BRET HARTE.

1884

FRIDAY

March 14

igin of " Uncle Sam."—" Immediately after the ation of war with England, in 1812, Elbert Anderson w York, then a contractor, visited Troy, where he ased a large quantity of provisions. The inspectors : articles at that place were Ebenezer and Samuel n. The latter (universally know as 'Uncle Sam') ally superintended in person a large number of work- who, on this occasion, were employed in overhaul- e provisions purchased by the contractor. The were marked 'E. A.—U. S.' Their inspection fell lot of a facetious fellow, who, on being asked the ng of the mark, said he did not know, unless it *Elbert Anderson and Uncle Sam*, alluding to *Uncle Vilson.* The joke took among the workmen and currently; and '*Uncle Sam*' when present was allied by them on the increasing extent of his pos- is."—*Gleanings for the Curious.*

1884

SATURDAY

March 15

ıckson, President, 1829–1837.—117 years ago ıy was the birthday of Andrew Jackson, the "hero of ›attle of New Orleans," who succeeded John Quincy ıns as President in 1829. He was famous as a ral, for he possessed decision, energy, forethought, atch, and skill; but with all these great qualities of a ary leader, his course as President showed that he somewhat narrow and violent in his passions. Two ›rtant events of his administration were South Caro- s "Nullification Scheme" and the Florida war against :ive slaves. Much anti-slavery excitement was occa- ɜd by the establishment of Garrison's Boston paper, *Liberator*, which induced the Georgia Legislature ffer $5,000 for his head. Other events of this time : the admission of Arkansas in 1836, and of Michigan reat Lake") in 1837; two great fires in New York Washington, and a dreadful plague of Asiatic cholera 832.

"Thy holiest aim
Was freedom, in the largest sense, despite
Misconstrued motives, and unmeasured blame.
Above deceit, in purpose firm and pure."

—LOWSON'S *Sonnet to Jackson.*

1884

SUNDAY

March 16

The Hymn, "My Faith Looks Up To Thee."—Of all the hymns born on this side of the Atlantic, the most celebrated and the most perfect in execution is Dr. Ray Palmer's "My faith looks up to Thee." It was written in 1830, because, as he said, "it was born in my heart and demanded expression. I recollect I ended the last lines with tears." Ten years later he gave the hymn to his friend Dr. Lowell Mason to set to music, and was told by him that he would be best known to posterity as its author. It has been translated into Arabic, Tamil, Tahitian, Marratta, and will doubtless go wherever the Bible penetrates.

"My faith looks up to thee,
Thou lamb of Calvary—
Saviour divine!
O hear me while I pray,
Take all my sins away,
O let me from this day,
Be wholly thine."

1884

MONDAY

March 17

:uation of Boston, 1776.—The battle of Bunker ıich was fought in June, 1775, showed the colonists :re was really to be a war with England. General 's last words, "The contest may be severe; the .l be glorious," expressed a universal sentiment, Continental Congress took measures to continue fully, if possible, the war which was now begun in George Washington took command of the l Army on July 2, 1775; Generals Ward, Lee, ·r, and Putnam being his major-generals. He :d his army of about 12,000 men as "a mixed le of people under very little discipline, order, or ıent." They were poorly armed, and the great of powder forced Washington to remain inactive l winter. When he at last succeeded in forcing sh troops who occupied Boston to evacuate the years ago to-day, the event was hailed by the with unbounded joy.

"And now Boston is free
From tyrants base;
The sons of liberty
Possess the place.
They now in safety dwell,
Their raptured tongues do tell
Their joys so great."

—*Revolutionary Ballad.*

1884

TUESDAY

March 18

Calhoun, 1782–1850.—102 years ago to-day, in a little llage of South Carolina, John C. Calhoun was born, terward one of the most eminent statesmen and orators America. As a lawyer and Congressman his early reer was marked by broad and patriotic views, but his ter-course disappointed his Northern friends. He was e leader of the "Nullification" scheme in South Caro-na, which at one time nearly caused a dissolution of the nion, and which gained him such unpopularity that he signed the office of Vice-President which he held under ckson. In 1838 he delivered his famous slavery speech, d continued a staunch agitator on behalf of slavery and dissolution of the Union until his death in 1850. hough blameless in his private character, Calhoun's litical course did much to precipitate the Rebellion.

1884

WEDNESDAY

March 19

The Census of the United States.—The word "census" is a Latin one, derived from the office of the Roman censors, whose business it was to enumerate the people. The census of the United States was first taken in 1790, and has since been taken once in every ten years. Its only purpose at first was to secure a proper apportionment of representatives for Congress, and was merely an enumeration of the people, classifying slaves and freemen. Additions and improvements were made until from the last census, of 1880, taken by General Walker, one may glean a world of important facts on all subjects—education, religion, occupations, wealth, etc. In the matter of population alone, the United States showed a remarkable uniformity of progress up to the time of the Civil War, when it was greatly checked by the loss of more than three quarters of a million men. By the census of 1790, the population of the United States was nearly four millions, while by that of 1880 it is shown to be over fifty millions.

1884

THURSDAY

March 20

Gadsden Purchase.—"When the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was made at the close of the Mexican War, it was founded on an inaccurate map, and this afterward led to a dispute about the New Mexican boundary. To settle the dispute, the United States bought of Mexico, in 1853, a part of the Territories now known as Arizona and New Mexico, for ten million dollars. The purchase included about forty-five thousand square miles, and brought the whole territorial extent of the United States (in 1854) up to nearly three million square miles. This was nearly four times the area of the original thirteen States, and far larger than that of the famous Roman empire in its greatest days."—HIGGINSON.

Fair elbow-room for men to thrive in!
Wide elbow-room for work or play!
If cities follow, tracing our footsteps,
Ever to westward shall point our way!

—CHARLES MACKAY.

1884

FRIDAY

March 21

Treaty with Japan, 1854.—Commodore
' was one of the first to hope for the peaceful
Japan, whose jealousy of foreigners almost en-
nted commercial intercourse with the Western
ı the summer of 1853, Perry, with the Ameri-
ıtered the bay of Jeddo, and though warned
inally succeeded in obtaining an appointment
nperor to confer about a treaty. When the
he was received with great pomp, and having
letter from President Pierce, was told to re-
ı answer in the spring. Accordingly, on the
of March, 1854, the important treaty was
ch opened the Japanese ports to American
removed almost all commercial restrictions.
r years, treaties were also made with the
English, French, and Dutch, and Japan once
ts place in the family of nations.

ıch greeting we give you to-night as we can ;
ɔng life to our *brothers and friends* of Japan !

—J. R. LOWELL.

1884

SATURDAY

March 22

Stamp-Act Passed, 1765.—The principal cause of the American Revolution is briefly expressed in the watch-word of the times: "No taxation without representation." England laid upon the colonies so many obnoxious taxes as finally to excite a struggle which, though primarily only an effort to obtain just treatment from the British, at last ended in the assertion of independence, and a lasting separation from the mother-country. One of the earliest of these taxes was the famous stamp-act, passed **119 years ago to-day,** by which the British sought to obtain a revenue from a stamped paper which they tried to force the colonists to buy and use in all legal documents. This measure, which created intense excitement all over the colonies, was eloquently opposed by Patrick Henry, in Virginia, and Col. Barré, in England, and was at last repealed in 1766, though only to be succeeded by other unjust taxes.

Let tyrants and minions presume to despise,
  Encroach on our rights and make freedom their prize;
The fruits of their rapine they never shall keep—
  Tho' vengeance may *nod, yet how* short is her sleep.

—*Revolutionary Ballad.*

1884

SUNDAY

March 23

God for Our Native Land.

God's blessing be upon
  Our own, our native land!
The land our fathers won
  By the strong heart and hand,
  The keen axe and the brand;
When they felled the forest's pride,
And the tyrant foe defied:
The free, the rich, the wide;
  God for our native land!

Our native land! to thee,
  In one united vow,
To keep thee strong and free
  And glorious as now,
  We pledge each heart and hand;
By the blood our fathers shed,
By the ashes of our dead,
By the sacred soil we tread,
  God *for our native* land!

—Rev. Geo. W. Bethune.

1884

MONDAY

March 24

Rhode Island Founded, 1635.—Among the early Massachusetts settlers was a young man named Roger Williams, whose political and religious opinions differed greatly from those around him. When he found that, on account of his belief in intellectual liberty and religious toleration he was to be sent back to England, he fled in the dead of winter, with five companions, to Narragansett Bay. He landed at a place which he called Providence, in token of his gratitude to God, and, on **March 24, 1635,** received from the Indians a deed of the surrounding land. He gave it the name of Rhode Island, from a supposed resemblance to the island of Rhodes. It became a refuge for the persecuted of all creeds, who there found more liberty than could be enjoyed under any Christian government in the world.

Of seven and thirty, this, the smallest State,
And yet how powerful and how populous!
Where will and deed like hers are valorous;
To narrow *bounds is set how large* a fate!

—C. F. Bates.

1884

TUESDAY

March 25

Boston Port Bill, 1774.—Just 110 years ago to-day, the British House of Commons discussed a bill which, when passed, was the crowning act of a long course of unjust treatment toward the colonies. For fourteen years previous, the chief events produced by this treatment, which at last led to the Revolutionary War, were the following: in 1761, the Navigation Act, which resulted in the burning of the British schooner, the *Gaspée*, off Rhode Island; in 1765, the Stamp Act (repealed the next year), which led to a Declaration of Rights by the first American Congress, in 1767, the duty on tea, glass, paper, etc.; in 1768, the arrival of British troops in Boston; in 1770, the "Boston Massacre"; and in 1773, the "Boston Tea Party." In revenge for the last proceeding, the Boston Port Bill was enacted in 1774, which, by closing her ports, put an entire stop to the commerce of Boston. The universal indignation aroused by "this act to enslave America," helped to make the scattered colonies into a nation, and brought about the beginning of the war in 1775.

The harbor was blocked up,
  No ship could sail;
Our fishery was stopt,
  A doleful tale!

—*Revolutionary Ballad.*

1884

WEDNESDAY

March 26

West Point Military Academy, 1802.—90 years ago, Congress first voted to establish a military academy to train officers for the United States army, but not until the year 1802 was the present military academy at West Point finally organized. Each Congressional district, each Territory, and the District of Columbia are entitled to have one cadet at West Point, and besides this number ten are appointed annually by the President. Cadets are admitted between 17 and 21 years of age, on passing examinations in certain elementary branches. Each cadet is paid $500 and one ration yearly, but finds his own clothing, books, etc. The summer months are spent in tents. On graduation, the cadets become commissioned officers in the different departments of the army, and are pledged to serve the United States for eight years from the time of admission. The average number of students since 1876 has been 270.

Fit home to rear a nation's youth,
By self-control to nerve the will,
Through knowledge gain expansive truth,
And with high aims life's circle fill.

—TUCKERMAN.

1884

THURSDAY

March 27

First Settlement in Maryland.—In March, 1632, two hundred colonists sent out by Lord Baltimore landed on the shores of the Potomac, and named the country in which they settled, Mary's Land, after Queen Henrietta Maria, the wife of King Charles I, from whom a charter had been obtained on condition of a yearly rent of two Indian arrows, and one fifth of all the gold and silver found. The colonists were nearly all persecuted Roman Catholics, but they showed a liberality toward all other religious sects which was only exceeded by that of Rhode Island. Except for some troubles with persecuted Puritans, who afterward settled in Maryland, the colony prospered, and, like the Virginians, lived mostly by tobacco-raising. Assemblies were held which enacted various laws in accordance with its liberal character. The voting was done by representatives chosen by the people.

1884

FRIDAY

March 28

onroe, President, 1817–1825.—The fifth Presi-
of the United States was James Monroe, born March
:759. The eight years of his administration were
n as the "era of good feeling," because most of the
olitical disputes were at an end, though the great
ry contest, which was not settled for nearly fifty years,
ust then beginning. The principal events of Monroe's
nistration were the famous Missouri Compromise of
; the announcement of the "Monroe Doctrine" in
; the first settlement of Liberia by Americans in 1821;
yette's visit to the United States in 1824, and the
ssion of five new States to the Union: Mississippi
eat River") in 1817, Illinois ("The Men") in 1818,
ama in 1819, Maine in 1820, and Missouri ("Muddy
rs") in 1821.

1884

SATURDAY

March 29.

Tyler, President, 1841–'45.—To-day is John Tyler's :hday, born in 1790. On President Harrison's death, ler as Vice-President succeeded him. During the first r of his administration, his vetoes of two Bankrupt and ı United States Bank bills, caused such indignation, t his entire Cabinet, Webster excepted, resigned. The ıkrupt Law which freed those who failed from obliga- ıs to pay debts, was finally passed in August, 1841. e other chief events of Tyler's administration were the ıburton Treaty in 1842, which settled the boundaries ween Maine and New Brunswick; the "Dorr War" in ɔde Island, a revolt against the old colonial charter; l an insurrection in New York against paying the old atroon" rents; also the completion of Morse's tele- ph in 1844, and the admission of Florida in 1845; but most important event of the period was the annexation Texas.

1884

SUNDAY

March 30

Baptists in the United States.—The first Baptist church in this country was founded, in a struggle for religious liberty, by Roger Williams and John Clark, in Rhode Island during the year 1639. For their religious views and their opinions on civil government, the Baptists suffered much persecution among the colonists. Laws were made against them in Massachusetts in 1644, in New York in 1662, and in Virginia in 1664; but about the beginning of the 18th century they were left undisturbed, To the strenuous efforts of the Baptists in 1789, much of the article on religious liberty in our Constitutional Amendments is owing. Their missions have done a great work both at home and abroad. Among the various classes of Baptists are the Free-Will Baptists, who were the outgrowth of a New Hampshire discussion in 1779; the German Baptists, or Dunkers, who arrived in America about 1725; the Seventh Day Baptists, 1671; and the Six-Principle Baptists, 1639 (see Heb. vii, 1, 2). The Baptists rank second in numbers among the Protestant sects of the United States.

1884

MONDAY

March 31

he **National Park, 1872.**—" In the northwest er of Wyoming Territory is a tract more remarkable its natural curiosities than any equal area on the e," which, in **March**, 1872, Congress decreed ld be reserved as a pleasure-ground for the enjoy- t of the people of the United States, and named the *wstone National Park.* The area of the park is sixty- by fifty-five miles, and the entire tract lies more than housand feet above the sea. Among its numerous at- tions are its snow-capped mountains, over ten thou- feet high, its thousands of geysers and springs, its t cañon, its largest lake twenty-two by fifteen miles ctent, and its water-falls three hundred and fifty feet more in height.

"Land of the West!—green forest land!
Clime of the fair, and the immense!
Favorite of Nature's liberal hand,
And child of her munificence!"

ALL FOOL'S DAY.

1884

TUESDAY

April 1

e **Fictitious Blue Laws of Connecticut.**—
g the most foolish literary frauds ever perpetrated
he so-called "Connecticut Blue Laws," alleged to
een enacted by the New Haven colony in the early
f the settlements. Although in Puritan times the
al conduct of citizens was often subject to judicial
ght, and Sabbath-breaking was especially hateful to
agistrates, the code of "Blue Laws" never existed
the imagination of the Rev. Samuel Peters, a
ous Tory minister of Hartford, who was forced to
England on account of the Revolution of 1776.
is "History of Connecticut," which Dr. Bacon calls
most unscrupulous and malicious of lying narra-
he spitefully introduced so many exaggerations and
ions—among them the "Blue Laws"—that it is
e that there have been people credulous enough to
e them.

ong the Blue Laws are the following:

woman shall kiss her child on the Sabbath."

one shall read common prayer, keep Christmas or
ays, make minced pies, dance, play cards, or play
trument of music except the drum, trumpet, and
rp."

1884

VEDNESDAY

April 2

ıomas Jefferson, 1743–1826.—Jefferson, framer
: Declaration of Independence and the third Presi-
of the United States, was born in Virginia, **April 2,**
. He was a leader in the Virginia House of Bur-
s, and in 1776 drew up the Declaration of Indepen-
:. He was later Governor of Virginia, Minister to
ce, and Secretary of State under Washington. As a
:r of the Anti-Federalist party Jefferson served two
; as President from 1801–1809, and then retired to
:icello where he spent the rest of his life dispensing
tality, writing, and furthering the interests of the
ersity of Virginia, which he founded. By a remark-
:oincidence both Jefferson and John Adams died on
:h of July, 1826, just fifty years from the day on
ı they signed the Declaration of Independence.
son's last words were: "Is this the Fourth?" and
s' were thought to be: "*Jefferson still lives!*"

1884

THURSDAY

April 3

ving, 1783–1859.—101 years ago to-day, Washing- Irving, the "Goldsmith of America," was born in r York. His first literary effort was the "Salma- li Papers," soon followed by the "History of New k, by Knickerbocker," a work especially admired by ter Scott, and which established Irving's reputation original humor and a charming literary style. The nteen years from 1819 to 1836 he spent in Europe ing the "Sketch-Book," "Bracebridge Hall," "Life olumbus," etc. On his return to America he fitted a beautiful home at Sunnyside on the Hudson, re he lived till his death in 1859, except four years h he spent in Spain as American Minister. His important work was the "Life of Washington."

How sweet a life his was; how sweet a death!
  Living, to wing with mirth the weary hours;
Dying, to leave a memory like the breath
  Of summers full of sunshine and of showers.

—LONGFELLOW.

1884

FRIDAY

April 4

Hudson's Discoveries, 1609.—275 years ago to-day, the Dutch East India Co., sent out Henry Hudson, a daring navigator, to discover a northwest passage to India by the new continent of America. He sailed in a ship called the *Half-Moon*, with a crew of twenty English and Dutch men. After a five-months' cruise he arrived at the mouth of the Hudson, the first white man who had ever sailed on its waters. At his first landing-place, the Indians crowded around him, and he offered them rum, which made them so intoxicated that they afterward called the spot "Manhattan" or "the place of drunkenness." Hudson sailed as far as Albany, and claimed the land for the Dutch, but then finding that the river was not the northwest passage, after all, he returned to Holland. He afterward explored the waters of Hudson's Bay, and was left there to perish in consequence of a mutiny among his crew.

"On its upward path
The *Half-Moon* glides. On the deck
Stands the bold Hudson."

1884

SATURDAY

April 5

Jnited States Patent Office.—The first patent in ; country was granted in 1641, for a new process of :-making, but not until long after—in April, 1790— ; the first United States statute relating to patents cted. Previous to 1836 only one clerk was needed to duct the business of the office, but in that year an miner, draughtsman, machinist, and messenger were ›ointed for the purpose. From this slender beginning grown the immense establishment at Washington, ich now employs nearly five hundred persons. The :sent patent-office building was completed in 1858, l contains more than 200,000 models. In the United ıtes a patent for seventeen years costs $20 (previous)lication, $15), in England $75, and in most conti- ıtal countries $100. In the United States patents 'e been applied for in an increasing ratio six times as at as the growth of the population, and a comparison h other countries proves Americans to be the most entive people in the world.

Hail, happy land,
The final stage where time shall introduce
Renowned characters, and glorious works
Of high *invention* and of wondrous art.

—BRACKENRIDGE.

1884

SUNDAY

April 6

Jefferson's Ten Rules of Practical Life.

1. Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day.
2. Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.
3. Never spend your money before you have it.
4. Never buy what you do not want because it is cheap; it will be dear to you.
5. Pride costs us more than hunger, thirst, and cold.
6. We never repent of having eaten too little.
7. Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.
8. How much pain have cost us the evils that have never happened!
9. Take things always by their smooth handle.
10. When angry, count ten before you speak; if very angry, a hundred.

1884

MONDAY

April 7

Anti-Slavery Champions.—One of the most eminent was Wm. E. Channing, who was born 104 years ago to-day, and died in 1842, of whom Whittier wrote:

> "Thus the common tongue and pen,
> Which world-wide echo Channing's fame
> As one of Heaven's anointed men,
> Have sanctified his name."

Three others: Wm. Lloyd Garrison (1805–1879), the editor of *The Liberator;* Benj. Lundy (1789–1839), the "Pioneer of anti-slavery"; and Elijah Lovejoy (1802–1837), the martyr of the Alton tragedy, were fearless advocates through the press. Chas. Sumner (1811–1874), and Wendell Phillips (born 1805) were the greatest orators of the cause; Whittier (born 1801) and Bryant (1784–1878) its poets; and Mrs. Stowe its novelist. The names of Joshua Giddings (1795–1864), Owen Lovejoy (1811–1864), Gerritt Smith (1797–1874), Horace Greeley, Henry W. Beecher, and many others should be added to this list.

> "Champions of those who groaned beneath
> Oppression's iron hand,
> In view *of penury, hate,* and death
> *I see them fearless stand.*"

1884
TUESDAY
April 8

The United States Tariff, 1789.—The first act to levy duties on United States imports was proposed by James Madison on the **8th of April, 1789.** From that time to 1804 there was a constant increase in the tariff, but just as a greater freedom of trade was beginning, the war with England, in 1812, added 100 per cent. to all duties. At first the North was for free trade, believing that thus greater gain would accrue to their carrying trade, and the South upheld protection, because they were the chief producers and wished to keep out foreign rivals; but by 1830 they had changed places—the South fighting for free trade under Calhoun, and the North under Daniel Webster for protection. A compromise bill, by Henry Clay, in 1833, reconciled the two parties, and, until 1841, there was a gradual reduction. Owing to the influence of Pennsylvania, a high tariff followed till 1847, when Walker's low tariff bill brought duties down to a very low point. The Civil War brought an immense increase, which doubled the tariff, and since its close there has been little change. Since 1850 the Republican party has, generally speaking, advocated protection, and the Democrats free trade, *or a tariff* for revenue only.

1884

VEDNESDAY

April 9

e's Surrender, 1865.—The Civil War virtually to an end with the evacuation of Richmond, April 65, and the surrender of General Lee and the ern Army of less than 28,000 men, **on the 9th,** at mattox Court-House, Va. The news caused a frenzy ight over the North and East. "Cannon roared and were rung from the Atlantic to the Pacific, for the years of suspense and sorrow were now at an end," ne Grand Army of 1,200,000 men returned to their s. The war had cost during the last year, more than million dollars a day, and left the United States a debt of more than two and one half billions. It ost, also, more than half a million lives; but slavery een abolished, and each side had learned to respect ourage and resources of the other, and it had been d that the strength, courage, and patriotism of the ican people were even greater than in the Revolution.

So, friends, let 's band
For Fatherland—
In brotherly communion,
Let every mouth
Cry "North and South,"
And God preserve the Union!

—SAVAGE

1884

THURSDAY

April 10

Horace Greeley, 1811–1872.—Horace Greeley, one the most eminent American journalists, was born in :w Hampshire in 1811, and was so precocious as a ild, that he could read at the age of two years. When ı years old he was apprenticed to a printer in Vermont. 1831 he arrived in New York with ten dollars in his cket and a small bundle of clothing. Ten years later, ving made several adventures in journalism, he pub-hed, **43 years ago to-day,** the first number of e *New York Tribune*, " which has since made his name mous throughout the English-speaking world." Greeley ıs a political reformer, careless of personal popularity, ıt animated by a high moral purpose in every thing hich he undertook. Having been an unsuccessful can-date for the Presidency in 1872, broken down by labor, ccitement, and domestic sorrow, he died within a month. 'he universal sorrow and his great public funeral testi-ed to the respect with which all men regarded him.

" Not the victor in his country's cause,
Not the chief who leaves a people free,
Not the framer of a nation's laws
Shall deserve *a greater* fame than he ! "

1884

FRIDAY

April 11

Florida Discovered, 1512.—Florida was discovered in 1512, on Easter Sunday ("Pascua Florida"), by Ponce de Leon, who sailed from Spain in search of a fountain of youth. It was not settled till long after by the English, and till 1763 the name Florida meant far more than the present State. It was recovered from the English by Spain in 1781, and in 1819 sold to the United States for $5,000,000. This purchase involved the Government in a very long and expensive war with the Seminole Indians who occupied the "Everglades" of Florida, and refused to move to the West. Many fugitive slaves fled to Florida, and this still further complicated the difficulties. The war continued at intervals from 1817 to 1842, and cost the United States more than three times the sum paid to Spain, and 1,500 lives besides. Florida was admitted as a State **in March, 1845.**

"Praise the Lord," sung De Leon, the sailor;
His heart was with rapture aflame;
And he *said:* "*Be the* name of this region
By Florida given to fame."

1884

SATURDAY

April 12

Rebellion Begins, 1861.—After the secession of the Southern States, the authorities of South Carolina at once claimed possession of all national property within its borders. After seizing the Charleston custom-house and post-office, on the **12th of April,** 1861, they fired the first shot of the war in an attack on Fort Sumter—one of the Charleston defences, which was bravely defended by Major Anderson, but was finally surrendered by him two days after. On the 15th, President Lincoln issued a call for 75,000 volunteers, and the war was fairly begun.

The shot whereby the old flag fell
From Sumter's battered citadel,
Struck down the lines of party creed
And made ye one, in soul and deed,
One mighty people, stern and strong
To crush the consummated wrong.

—BAYARD TAYLOR *To the American People.*

1884
SUNDAY
April 13

Easter Hymn.

The day of resurrection,
  Earth tells it out abroad,
The Passover of gladness,
  The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal,
  From this world to the sky,
Our Christ has brought us over
  With hymns of victory.
Our hearts be pure from evil
  That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal
  Of resurrection light;
And, listening to His accents,
  May hear, so calm and plain,
His own "All hail!" and, hearing,
  May raise the victor-strain.
Now let the heavens be joyful,
  Let earth the song begin,
Let the round world keep triumph,
  And all that is therein;
Invisible and visible,
  Their notes let all things blend,
For Christ the Lord hath risen,
  Our joy that hath no end.

—Anc

1884

MONDAY

April 14

Lincoln Assassinated, 1865.—On the 14th of April, 65, President Lincoln was assassinated while sitting in heatre in Washington, by Wilkes Booth, who shouted, he fled: "Sic semper tyrannis—the South is avenged." e terrible news of the President's death changed the at the close of the war to a mourning which had never n equalled in the history of the country.

From the rough Atlantic roar
To the long Pacific roll—
For bereavement and for dole,
  Every cottage wears its weed,
White as thine own pure soul
  And black as the traitor deed.

—BROWNELL.

Our hearts lie buried in the dust
  With him so true and tender,
The patriot's stay, the people's trust,
  The shield of the offender.

—O. W. HOLMES.

1884

TUESDAY

April 15

Johnson, President, 1865–1869.—Andrew Johnson became President on the day after Lincoln's assassination, in April, 1865. He was born of humble parentage, at Raleigh, N. C., in 1808, and was, in his youth, apprenticed to a tailor for seven years. Removing to Tennessee, he married, and was taught by his wife to write. Being naturally a politician, he was soon elected alderman by the rough people of his Tennessee home; then mayor, Congressman, and governor. His ability as Military Governor of Tennessee, under President Lincoln, led to his election as Vice-President in 1864. His course as President greatly disappointed the Republican party, and led to the attempt to remove him from office by impeachment in 1868. For a man with so few early advantages, which may account somewhat for his narrowness and obstinacy, Johnson showed great ability, courage, and political insight, and no one ever doubted his honesty.

1884

WEDNESDAY

April 16

First White Child Born in Ohio, 1781.—One hundred years ago, that portion of the West which is now Ohio was partly primeval forest and partly a prairie region, inhabited by wild beasts and Indians. The possession of the land was disputed for many years by the French and English, and afterward by conflicting State claims. A large portion of the district known as the "Western Reserve" belonged to the State of Connecticut, till sold by her in 1800. In 1778, a New England company, sent out by General Putnam, made the first Ohio settlement at Marietta, so called for the French Queen Marie Antoinette, and three years later, **April 16, 1781,** the first white child was born in the district. Cincinnati was also settled in 1778. Not until 1794 did General Wayne's victory secure to the colonists peace and safety from the Indians. In 1802 Ohio became a State, and in 1816 Columbus was made its capital.

Land of the West !—green forest-land !
Thine early day for deeds is famed,
Which in historic page shall stand
Till bravery is no longer named.

—GALLAGHER.

1884

THURSDAY

April 17

"The Wilmot Proviso," 1846–1848.—At the close of the Mexican War great efforts were made by the slavery and anti-slavery States to secure the control of the rich countries which were acquired from Mexico. Accordingly, Mr. Wilmot, of Pennsylvania, introduced into Congress a measure called the "Wilmot Proviso," which should forever exclude slavery from all future territories of the United States. After long discussion, the measure was defeated, but its agitation gave rise to a new party in politics called the "Freesoil Party," and this afterward, under the name "Republican," obtained the control of the government.

"God's ways seem dark, but soon or late
They touch the shining hills of day;
The evil cannot brook delay,
The good can well afford to wait."

1884

FRIDAY

April 18

Paul Revere's Ride, 1775.

"Listen my children and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,
On the eighteenth of April in Seventy-five.

On the day before the Revolution began, with the battle of Lexington, the Americans learned that the British troops in Boston were to march to Concord in order to seize the military stores there collected. According to Longfellow's well-known poem, Paul Revere waited that night on horseback on the Charlestown side for signals from the North Church tower as to whether the British were to cross by land or sea. In reality, as a letter from Revere of January 1, 1798 shows, the signals were only for his Charlestown friends, in case he was not able to cross to them. He did so, however, and probably did not see the signals at all, but having, in Boston, learned the news, at once set out on horseback, arousing the people, as far as Lexington, to be in readiness.

The spark struck out by that steed in his flight
Kindled the land into flame with its heat.

—LONGFELLOW

1884

SATURDAY

April 19

ıttle of Lexington, 1775.—The 19th of April is a orable day in the annals of America, for on that day, 75, the first blood was shed in the Revolution, and y-six years later, on the same day, the first blood ıe Rebellion was shed as the Massachusetts troops hed through Baltimore. The battle of Lexington ought by sixty or seventy militia-men on the village ı, against eight hundred British regulars who had hed from Boston to seize the colonists' stores. In of Pitcairn's cry, "Disperse, ye rebels!" the little ɔany stood bravely before the guns which killed and wounded ten of their number. The British d on to Concord Bridge where 450 "minute-men" hem to flight, and greatly harassed their return to ɔn.

"You know the rest. In the books you have read,
How the British regulars fired and fled,—
How the farmers gave them ball for ball,
From behind each fence and farm-yard wall,
Chasing the red-coats down the lane."

1884

SUNDAY

April 20

Emerson's Hymn.—Sung at the completion of the Concord Monument, in memory of the Battle of Concord, fought April 19, 1775.

By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
  Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood,
  And fired the shot heard round the world.

The foe long since in silence slept;
  Alike the conqueror silent sleeps,
And Time the ruined bridge has swept
  Down the dark stream which seaward creeps.

* * * *

Spirit, that made those heroes dare
  To die, or leave their children free,
Bid Time and Nature gently spare
  The shaft we raise to *them* and thee.

1884

MONDAY

April 21

Northwest Territory Organized, 1787.—The act passed in 1787 by the Continental Congress for the organization of the great "Northwest Territory" north of the Ohio river, has been called "the most notable law ever enacted by representatives of the American people." It provided that no man should be restricted of his liberty except for crime, and declared that "religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." This clause has been copied into the constitutions of many States. In order to supply the means of education, "one section in every township was set apart for the support of common schools, and two townships for the establishment of a university. Ohio University at Athens arose from this foundation, and was the first college west of the Alleghanies."

"Land of the West!—beneath the heavens
There 's not a fairer, lovelier clime;
Nor one to which was ever given
A destiny more high, sublime."

1884
TUESDAY
April 22

Buchanan, President, 1857–1861.—During the administration of James Buchanan (who was born **93 years ago to-day**) the country was in a ferment of agitation on the slavery question, which broke out into war just as his term of office ended. In 1857 Judge Taney gave the famous "Dred Scott decision" against the rights of negroes as citizens, and two years later John Brown's raid created intense excitement. Besides the slavery agitation, the government under Buchanan had great trouble with a Mormon rebellion in Utah, and with Irish riots in New York and Washington. Two distinguished guests visited the United States at this time—the Prince of Wales and the Japanese Ambassador. Three free States were admitted: Minnesota in 1858, Oregon in 1859, and Kansas in 1861. Prescott and Irving died in 1859, and the Atlantic cable was laid in 1858. The most exciting election which the country had ever known was that of Buchanan's successor, which resulted in Lincoln being declared President.

"Sing a song of Sumter, a fort in Charleston Bay,
Eight-and-sixty brave men watch there night and day.
Those brave men to succor, still no aid is sent;
Is n't James Buchanan a pretty President!
James is in his cabinet doubting and debating;
Anderson 's in Sumter, very tired of waiting.
Pickens is in Charleston, blustering of blows;
Thank goodness March *the Fourth is* near,
To nip *Secession's nose.*"

1884

WEDNESDAY

April 23

Federalists and Anti-Federalists. — After the Revolutionary War, the two great political parties in the United States were the Federalists, headed by Washington, John Adams and Hamilton ; and the Anti-Federalists, led by Jefferson and Samuel Adams. The Federalists wished the new government to resemble that of England as much as possible, and believed in a strong centralization of power, the superior authority of the Union over the separate States, and enough formalities of government for its maintenance. The Anti-Federalist party—also called Republican, but afterward giving rise to the modern Democratic party—sympathized with the French in the Revolution then in progress, hated the English and all aristocratic forms of government, and, above all, upheld firmly the independent rights of the States. The Federalist party ruled from 1789 to 1801, and the Anti-Federalists, coming in power with Jefferson's presidency, from 1801 to 1809.

1884

THURSDAY

April 24

First Newspaper in the United States, 1704. The first daily newspaper in North America was the *ston News-Letter* commenced **April 24, 1704.** It was nted on a half sheet of paper, twelve inches by eight, l survived till 1776. The first newspaper in Philadel-a was the *American Weekly Magazine* published in 9; and the first in New York, the *New York Gazette*, 1725. In 1801, the *Evening Post* was started; in 1835, *New York Herald;* in 1841 the *Tribune;* and in 50, the *New York Times.* In 1775 there were thirty-en newspapers in the United States, and now there are re than 11,000.

The origin of the word "newspaper" is said to be found he old custom of putting at the head of periodical publi-ions the points of the compass N W E S showing that infor-tion was given from all parts of the world. But this mology must be regarded as more ingenious than correct.

> 'T was the voice of the Press—on the startled ear,
> In giant-born prowess, like Pallas of old, breaking;
> 'T was the flash of intelligence gloriously waking
> A glow *on the cheek of* the noble and bold!
>
> —H. GREELEY.

1884

FRIDAY

April 25

rrender of New Orleans, 1862.—When the Civil broke out in 1861, the United States Government at announced a blockade of all Southern ports, to he rebels off from all commercial intercourse with gn countries on whom they depended for arms, cloth- nedicines, etc. New Orleans, being one of the most rtant of the Southern defences, was bombarded ix days by General Butler, and finally entered by nodore Farragut on the **25th of April, 1862.** Farra- exploit was one of the most famous of the war, as, to . the city, he had to run his fleet through a steady fire the two forts below the harbor, and pass thirteen gun- , a floating battery, an iron ram, and five burning The rebels withdrew, and the city surrendered three after, and thus the Government obtained control of ›wer Mississippi.

> But that we fought foul wrong to wreck,
> And to save the land we loved so well,
> You might have deemed our long gun deck
> Two hundred *feet of* hell!
>
> —BROWNELL'S *River Fight.*

1884

SATURDAY

April 26

Women's Colleges in America.—The last fifty years have shown that all Americans do not agree with Lessing, who said that "The woman who thinks is, like the man who puts on rouge, ridiculous!" for there is no other country in which a girl's thinking powers are so universally trained. The first attempt, in the United States, to give women a higher education, was when Oberlin College, in 1834, opened its doors to the sisters of its young men students. Three years later Mt. Holyoke Seminary was established, which has since sent out hundreds of well-educated women as foreign missionaries, through the efforts of its first President, Mary Lyon. In 1865 Vassar College was opened, which was built by Matthew Vassar, who declared that mothers of a country mould the characters of its citizens, determine its institutions, and shape its destiny. Ten years later Smith College in Northampton and Wellesley College near Boston were both opened, and in February, 1879, Harvard College offered to women a separate course of study similar to that prescribed *for the young* men.

1884

SUNDAY

April 27

Mary Lyon, the first President of Mt. Holyoke Seminary, was born in 1797 and died in 1849. The following good advice was given by her to her pupils :

In every thing you undertake have some definite object in view.

Never speak unless you have something to say, and always stop when you are done.

None can be honest to God who are not honest t man.

Those attain the greatest happiness who seek indirectly by promoting the happiness of others.

Treasure up hints : they may prove the seed principles.

Be punctual to all appointments.

Observe all the rules of politeness at home which would among strangers.

Knowledge of books increases faster than knowl of character.

1884

MONDAY

April 28

Grant, President, 1869–1877.—U. S. Grant was born **62 years ago yesterday** (April 27, 1822) in Ohio. He graduated at West Point, fought gallantly in the Mexican War, but was unknown to the public when the Civil War broke out. His military reputation was established by the capture of Fort Donelson in 1862, and his after-career, till he was appointed commander-in-chief in 1864, was a series of brilliant successes. He succeeded Johnson as President in 1869, and was elected for two terms. Among the important events during his administration were the passage of the specie resumption act in 1876, the completion of the Pacific Railroad in 1869, the settlement of the "Alabama claims" in 1872, the fires in Chicago and Boston in 1871 and 1872, the Modoc Indian disturbances in 1875, the Centennial Exhibition, which he opened in 1876, the admission of Colorado as a State and the massacre of Gen. Custer by the Sioux in 1876.

And still where'er his banners led
He conquered as he came;
The tremblin hosts of treason fled
Before his breath of fame.

—HOLMES to Grant.

1884

TUESDAY

April 29

The following are the political nicknames for the people of the different States :

Alabama, lizards ; Arkansas, toothpicks ; California, gold-hunters ; Colorado, rovers ; Connecticut, wooden nutmegs ; Delaware, blue hen's chickens ; Florida, fly-up-the-creeks ; Georgia, crackers ; Illinois, suckers ; Indiana, hoosiers ; Iowa, hawk-eyes ; Kansas, jay-hawkers ; Kentucky, corn-crakers ; Louisiana, creoles ; Maine, foxes ; Maryland, craw-thumpers ; Michigan, wolverines ; Minnesota, gophers ; Mississippi, tadpoles ; Missouri, pukes ; Nebraska, bug-eaters ; Nevada, stage hens ; New Hampshire, granite boys ; New Jersey, blues or clam-catchers ; New York, knickerbockers ; North Carolina, tar-boilers and tuckoes ; Ohio, buckeyes ; Oregon, web-feet and hard cases ; Pennsylvania, leather-heads and Pennanites , Rhode Island, gun-flints ; South Carolina, weasels ; Tennessee, whelps ; Texas, beef heads ; Vermont, Green Mountain boys ; Virginia, beadles ; *and Wisconsin, badgers.*

1884

VEDNESDAY

April 30

'ashington's Administration, 1789–1797.— ıington was inaugurated with great pomp in New , on **April 30, 1789.** The court over which he and ɪly Washington" presided was far more formal and .nt than has ever been maintained since. During his nistration the finances of the country were greatly oved by Hamilton. A U. S. bank and a national were established at Philadelphia; a "Whiskey :llion" was suppressed in Penn.; Gen. Wayne ined a final victory over the Ohio Indians in 1794; life was given to American industry by the inven- of the cotton-gin; and Vermont, Kentucky, and ıessee were admitted to the Union. The first census, h was taken in 1790, showed the population to be ly 4,000,000. Washington delivered his memorable vell address in 1796.

> In thee thy country owns, with grateful pride,
> Her shield in war, in peace her surest guide;
> And ages yet unborn, with glad acclaim,
> Pronounce a Washington's illustrious name.
>
> —ALSOP.

1884

THURSDAY

May 1

The Panic of 1837.—When President Jackson re-
oved the public funds from the old " U. S. Bank " to the
arious State banks, the sudden acquisition of so much
oney, which was let out on easy terms, created a wild
ania for speculation. Public lands were bought to the
nount of $24,000,000 in one year, and towns were laid
it by the hundreds. Suddenly, in 1836, Jackson issued
is famous " specie circular," ordering all government
ues to be paid in gold and silver. This sudden check
speculation, together with bad harvests, high prices, and
n over-supply in the cotton market led to the terrible
ommercial crash of **May, 1837.** Merchants and banks
iled ; public works ceased ; eight States and even the
eneral Government were bankrupt , there was universal
istress, and multitudes lacked bread. Not for five years
id the country recover from the " Black Days of 1837."

" We have cherished fair hopes, we have plotted brave schemes,
We have lived till we find them illusive as dreams ;
Wealth has melted like snow that is grasped in the hand,
And the steps we have climbed have departed like sand."

1884

FRIDAY

May 2

Brooklyn Bridge, 1870–1883.—The construction of one of the greatest works of engineering of modern times began **fourteen years ago to-day** with the foundation of the towers of the Brooklyn Bridge. The two towers were finally completed in 1876, and the first cable was run across in 1877. The bridge is 85 feet broad and about a mile and an eighth long. The four cables by which it is supported consist of 21,000 wires, and each cable has the strength of 12,000 tons. A ship 135 feet high can pass under the bridge, and the tops of the two towers are 276 feet above the water. The cost of construction has been about fifteen and a half million dollars, of which two thirds is paid by Brooklyn and one third by New York. After thirteen years spent in its erection the bridge was opened with great ceremony on the 24th of May, 1883.

So stand in strength and beauty thro' all days
  Of human generations yet to come,
And safe along thy firm, smooth, silent ways
  Bear myriads to and from their island home.

—Rev. H. B. Walbridge.

1884
SATURDAY
May 3

The New England Confederacy, 1643.—In May, 1643, representatives of four colonies,—Plymouth, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Haven, met at Boston and formed a confederation under the name of "The United Colonies of New England," in "a firm and perpetual league of friendship and unity, for offence and defence, mutual advice and succor, upon all just occasions, both for preserving and propagating the truth and liberties of the Gospel, and for their own mutual safety and welfare." The league was formed for mutual protection against the Indians, and from a natural tendency in the English settlers to political aggregation. New Hampshire and Rhode Island were not included in the confederacy, as their forms of government differed greatly from the Puritans, and Maine and Vermont were not separate provinces till long after. Massachusetts was always the ruling spirit of the league, which lasted forty years.

Hail to the land whereon we tread,
Our fondest boast!
The sepulchre of mighty dead,
The truest hearts that ever bled,
Who sleep on Glory's brightest bed,
A fearless host:
No slave is here; our unchained feet
Walk freely as the waves that beat
Our coast.

—*From* PERCIVAL'S "*New England.*"

1884

SUNDAY

May 4

The first book printed in the United States was the Metrical Psalm Book," issued at Cambridge in 1643.

The Psalm tunes of the Puritan :—
  The hymns that dared to go
Down shuddering through the abyss of man—
  His gulfs of conscious woe ;
That scaled the utmost height of bliss,
  Where the veiled seraph sings,
And worlds unseen brought down to this
  On music's mighty wings ;
The long, quaint words, the humdrum rhyme,
  The verse that reads like prose,
Are relics of a sturdier time
  Than modern childhood knows.
And when we sing some hard old hymn,
  That rings like flint on steel,
Let not a shade of mockery dim
  The flame its *words reveal.*

—LUCY LARCOM.

1884

MONDAY

May 5

ch Rule in New York, 1614–1664.—After the
:ries of Hudson in 1609, the Dutch West India
.ny took possession of New York, calling it New
·lands. The Dutch were then the greatest com-
l people in the world, and the colonists all traded
ver and bear skins with the Indians. Most of the
'as let out by the Company to wealthy proprietors
Patroons, each of whom had authority to found a
of fifty persons, and to own sixteen miles of land
/ unoccupied border of a stream. The Dutch
was prosperous and happy, except for occasional
:s with Indians and English settlers, the latter of
wanted to possess the New Netherlands. At last,
ı, an English fleet with a charter, granted by Chas.
the 12th of March, took possession of the New
·lands, and changed its name to New York, in
ɔf the king's brother, the Duke of York.

In petticoats of linsey-red,
And jackets neatly kept,
The vrouws their knitting-needles sped,
And *deftly spun and swept.*

—STEDMAN.

1884

TUESDAY

May 6

The Freedmen's Bureau.—At the close of the Civil War, it became necessary to provide assistance for the thousands of blacks who were then without homes or work. Accordingly, in March, 1865, the "Freedmen's Bureau" was established by Congress, to exercise a general supervision over the negroes, give them education and aid in obtaining work, and collect arrears of payment claimed by the black soldiers.

The Bureau exercised all its functions till January 1, 1869, and its educational department continued till 1870, by which about a quarter of a million negroes were educated each year. The Bureau aided in establishing eight colleges for the higher education of the freedmen, and did an incalculable amount of good.

"Oh, dark, sad millions, patiently and dumb
Waiting for God, your hour at last has come!"

1884

WEDNESDAY

May 7

Columbia College, 1755.—In 1746 an act was passed by the New York colony to raise money by lottery for "the founding of a college." In this way the sum of £3,443 was obtained, and placed in the hands of ten trustees, who obtained a charter, and organized "King's College," as it was then called, on **May 7, 1755.** The original college building was erected in 1756, near what is now Park Place, in the lower part of New York city, and was said to be "the most beautifully situated of any college in the world." The first commencement was held in 1758. Nine years later, a grant of twenty-four thousand acres was made to the College, but was afterward lost, as the land proved to be a part of the State of Vermont. During the Revolution the College was disorganized, and its building used as a military hospital. When a reorganization was made in 1784, the name was changed to "Columbia College." Among its early graduates were Robert Livingston, Alexander Hamilton, Robert Morris, and John *Jay*.

1884

THURSDAY

May 8

Alabama Claims.—The *Alabama* was a war vessel, built for the Confederate States, in England. During the Civil War she captured sixty-five vessels, and destroyed $4.000,000 of property. She was finally sunk in 1864, in a sea-fight off the coast of France, by the American ship *Kearsage*. For the enormous damage which the *Alabama* did to American commerce and shipping, the United States claimed that England, a neutral nation, was responsible, and demanded a large sum in reparation. It was finally arranged by a treaty at Washington, **May 8, 1871,** that the matter should be settled by arbitration. Accordingly, a court of representatives from England, United States, Italy, Switzerland, and Brazil, met at Geneva in 1871, and finally awarded the United States damages to the amount of $15,000,000.

"What! shall Saxon bonds be sundered
By the sordid lust of gain?
Shall the realms of peace be ravaged
By the rulers of the main
For the greed of gold or glory?
No,—forbid it, God the Lord!
Young America—old England—
Hand-in-hand, not sword to sword!"

1884

FRIDAY

May 9

Pontiac's War, 1763.—This was the last of the Indian wars, and was kindled by a brave and powerful chief called Pontiac, who instigated the Western tribes to drive the English from the French posts, which were awarded to them at the close of the French and Indian war. The Indians displayed great cruelty and cunning, and murdered many of the fort garrisons. **May 9, 1763,** Pontiac began the longest Indian siege on record, by an attack on Detroit, a very important trading post. The garrison held out for several months, and the Indians abandoned the siege. In order to avoid signing the treaty which the English demanded, Pontiac fled to the West, where he was finally murdered in a drunken frolic. No Indian chief had ever exerted such an influence over the Western tribes, and with his death the troublesome Indian wars came to an end.

> " Wo for thy hapless fate !
> Wo for thine evil times and lot, brave chief !
> Thy sadly-closing story,
> Thy *quickly vanished* glory,
> *Thy bold but hopeless* struggle, brave and brief."

1884

SATURDAY

May 10

:entennial Exhibition, 1876.—The Centennial In-
ıational Exhibition, at Philadelphia, was opened by
ıeral Grant, **May 10, 1876,** one hundred years after
declaration of independence, and lasted till the 10th of
ɪember. Nearly nine million dollars were expended
ıeparation, and within an area of two hundred and
ty-six acres, fifty different countries vied with one an-
ɪr in displaying the proofs of their industry, wealth,
greatness. The exhibition resulted in greatly en-
ıcing the importance of the United States in the esti-
ion of European nations, and in giving a marked
ɪetus to American industry. Within the one hundred
ıs which the festival closed, the population of the
ıntry had become twenty-two times as great as it was
776, its area more than four times as large, its manu-
ıures more than one hundred times as productive, and
colleges sixty-one times as numerous.

1884

SUNDAY

May 11

Whittier's Centennial Hymn.

Our fathers' God ! from out whose hand
The centuries fall like grains of sand,
We meet to-day, united, free,
And loyal to our land and Thee,
To thank Thee for the era done,
And trust Thee for the opening one.

Here, where of old, by Thy design,
The fathers spake that word of Thine
Whose echo is the glad refrain
Of rended bolt and falling chain,
To grace our festal time from all
The zones of earth our guests we call.

Oh, make Thou us, through centuries long,
In peace secure, in justice strong ;
Around our gift of freedom draw
The safeguards of Thy righteous law ;
And, cast in some *diviner mold,*
Let the new cycle shame the old !

1884

MONDAY

May 12

Origin of "Brother Jonathan."—"When Gen. Washington, after being appointed commander of the army of the Revolutionary War, went to Massachusetts to organize it, he found a great want of ammunition and other means of defence, and on one occasion it seemed that no means could be devised for the necessary safety. Jonathan Trumbull, the elder, was then governor of the State of Connecticut, and the general, placing the greatest reliance on his excellency's judgment, remarked: 'We must consult Brother Jonathan on the subject.' The general did so, and the governor was successful in supplying many of the wants of the army; thenceforward, when difficulties arose, and the army was spread over the country, it became a by-phrase, 'We must consult Brother Jonathan.'"—*Gleanings for the Curious.*

1884

TUESDAY

May 13

ıestown Settled, 1607.—From 1584 to 1590, alter Raleigh, a famous Englishman, made several :essful attempts to colonize Virginia, for which he ıtained a charter, and had named it for the "Virgin ," Elizabeth. His only important results were the uction of potatoes and tobacco into England. But **13th of May, 1607,** another colony, sent by the ın Company, on a charter from King James, landed ıestown, Va., and founded the first permanent Eng- :ttlement in America. Captain John Smith who e the leader of the colony, had great difficulty in ;ing the colonists, most of whom were idlers, gold- :s, or nobles. Their frequent quarrels and many s from the Indians taxed to the utmost the pa- and firmness of Captain Smith; but, owing to his ıeadership, the colony increased in spite of its ad- .es. The town of Jamestown was burned in the In- vars seventy years later.

"Old cradle of an infant world
In which a nestling empire lay,
Struggling a while, ere she unfurled
Her gallant wing and soared away;
All hail! thou birthplace of the glowing West
Thou seem'st *the towering* eagle's ruined nest!"

1884

WEDNESDAY

May 14

United States Post-Office, 1775.—Before 1639, postal facilities among the colonists were only those afforded by personal accommodation, but in that year, Massachusetts decreed that one, "Richard Fairbanks," of Boston, should deliver or send all letters left with him, and should charge one penny for each. In 1672, a monthly mail was established between New York and Boston, "all persons paying the post before the bagg be sealed up." By 1704 several postal lines were organized, the postage varying from sixpence to fifteen pence. A colonial postmaster-general was appointed in 1710, and until 1774 Great Britain derived a small revenue from the department. In 1775 Benjamin Franklin was chosen postmaster-general, and, with the help of a committee, devised the system which has been since employed. In 1790 there were seventy-five post-offices in the United States, and in 1881, 44,512. During 1880, nearly a million articles passed through the post-office department.

1884

THURSDAY

May 15

San Francisco.—In 1776 a mission was established on the site of San Francisco by two San Franciscan friars. By 1825, the mission had under its care eighteen hundred Indians, and possessed many thousand cattle. The mission decayed and a village was started ten years later, which, in 1847 had about four hundred and fifty inhabitants. The next year the discovery of gold attracted thousands of emigrants from all parts of the world, and in 1851 San Francisco had a population of twenty-five thousand.

From 1851–56, owing to corrupt municipal government and inadequate laws, a vigilance committee of citizens ruled the city and rid it of eight hundred evil-doers. In 1877–78, a popular demagogue, Denis Kearney, made a great deal of trouble by instigating communistic riots among the workmen. In 1880, the population was over a quarter of a million, including twenty thousand Chinese.

Serene, indifferent of fate
Thou sittest at the Western Gate;
Thou seest *the white* seas strike their tents,
O Warden of two continents !

—BRET HARTE.

1884

FRIDAY

May 16

'irst Ocean Steamer, 1819.—The first steam-boat ich crossed the Atlantic was the *Savannah;* a ship of ee hundred tons, built in New York, which started m New York in **May, 1819,** sailed to Savannah and nce to Ireland in twenty-five days. When seen from Irish coast, her smoke-stacks caused the astonished ives to suppose she was on fire, and a revenue cruiser s sent out from Cork for relief. For twenty years after *Savannah's* remarkable voyage, there was little steam vigation on the Atlantic. The first Cunard steamer, e *Britannia,* made its first voyage in 1840.

"With streaming pennons, scorning sail and oar,
With steady tramp, and swift-revolving wheel,
And even pulse from throbbing heart of steel,
She plies her arrowy course from shore to shore."

1884

SATURDAY

May 17

Jefferson's Administration, 1801–1809.—The government under Jefferson presented a contrast to the Federal administrations which preceded it, in simplicity and an utter absence of pomp and style in public ceremonies. Jefferson, who was the father of the Democratic party (then called Republican), greatly reduced the expenses of government, and advocated universal suffrage. The principal events during his administration were the purchase of Louisiana, and the war with the Barbary States, in 1803; the duel between Hamilton and Burr, and the exploring expedition to the Columbia River, in 1804; the trial of Burr, and the beginnings of the English aggressions which led to the war of 1812; the "Embargo" of 1807, and the invention of the steam-boat.

Jefferson removed from office but thirty-nine; President Jackson, twenty years later, removed seven hundred!

1884

SUNDAY

May 18

ODE TO JAMESTOWN.

(*Jamestown settled in May*, 1607.)

No one that inspiration drinks ;
  No one that loves his native land ;
No one that reasons, feels, or thinks,
  Can 'mid these lovely ruins stand,
Without a moistened eye, a grateful tear
Of reverent gratitude to those that moulder here.

Jamestown and Plymouth's hallowed rock
  To me shall ever sacred be,—
I care not who my themes may mock,
  Or sneer at them and me.
I envy not the brute who here can stand
Without a thrill for his own native land.

And if the recreant crawl her earth
  Or breathe Virginia's air,
Or in New England claim his birth,
  From the old pilgrims there,
He is a bastard, if he dare to mock
Old Jamestown's shrine or Plymouth's famous ro

—PAULDIN

1884

MONDAY

May 19

Hawthorne, 1804-1864.—Nathaniel Hawthorne, who died just **twenty years ago to-day**, was born in Salem, Mass.; graduated at Bowdoin College; held office in the Boston custom-house with Bancroft; joined the Brook Farm Community; married and lived in the "Old Manse" at Concord; wrote "The Scarlet Letter" in 1850, "The House of Seven Gables" in '51; spent four years as U. S Consul at Liverpool; travelled in Italy, and published his most famous work, "The Marble Faun" in 1860; and dying at the age of sixty, was laid to rest, near Emerson and Thoreau, in the cemetery at Concord. As a romance writer he is famous for his psychological studies of New England life and his exquisite beauty of style. Lowell wrote of Hawthorne:

> "A frame so robust, with a nature so sweet,
> So earnest, so graceful, so solid, so fleet,
> Is worth a descent from Olympus to meet."

1884

TUESDAY

May 20

John Eliot.—1604-1690.—The "Indian Apostle, Eliot," was born in England in 1604, and when twenty-seven years old migrated to Massachusetts, where he became much interested in the Indians. He learned their language through a captive Pequot-boy, and spent the rest of his life preaching to them, and translating books into the Indian tongue. His great work, "The Indian Bible," was printed in Cambridge in 1663, and was the first Bible printed in America. Eliot was assisted by several good men, the Mayhews, Cotton, and others, and many "Praying Indians" as they were called, were gathered into the town of Natick, Mass., where Eliot often preached under the great oak which still bears his name. He died, **May 20, 1690,** beloved alike by white men and Indians.

"Thou ancient oak! whose myriad leaves are loud
With sounds of unintelligible speech,
Thou speak'st a language that no man can teach,
Of a lost race, long vanished like a cloud;
For underneath thy shade, in days remote,
Th' apostle of the Indians, Eliot wrote
His Bible in a language that hath died
And is forgotten, save by thee alone."

1884

WEDNESDAY

May 21

Early Days in the "Old Dominion."—There was a great contrast between the life of the Virginia settlers and that of the New Englanders. The Virginians lived on separate plantations rather than in villages as in the North, and the fertility of the soil and the lucrativeness of tobacco-raising disinclined them to commercial pursuits. The tobacco traffic greatly enhanced the value of slave labor, which was first introduced into Virginia in 1620, and tobacco was universally used for money. There was much rough, generous hospitality in those times in Virginia, but very little education. The Sunday laws were at one period so strict, that any one who absented himself from church three times had to serve as a slave for a year and a day. A woman who scolded might be ducked three times in water. A Virginian gentleman of the F. F. V. owned large plantations and many slaves, and kept open house. A good idea of these times may be gained from Thackeray's "Virginians."

> "Mother of *States and unpolluted* men,
> *Virginia, fitly named from* England's manly queen!"

1884

THURSDAY

May 22

e Soto Discovers the Mississippi, 1541.—The European who beheld the "Father of Waters" was Soto, a Spaniard, who in 1541 penetrated to its shores l great dificulties, and was himself buried in its waters :he **22d of May** of the next year. More than a lred years later, a Frenchman named La Salle, who an enthusiastic reader of De Soto's discoveries, ersed the whole river from its northern sources to its th. "As he floated down its flood he anticipated the re affluence of emigrants, and heard in the distance footsteps of the advancing multitudes who were com- to take possession of the valley." At its mouth he ıp, in 1682, a column which bore the name and titles ouis XIV, of France, and claimed the whole region :he French.

"How pride and wonder lighted up each face,
While down the stream the brave explorers sped;
Marking the devious windings as they trace
The *noble river's wood*-environed bed."

1884

FRIDAY

May 23

rgaret Fuller, 1810–1850. — Margaret Fuller , one of the most gifted of American women, was n Cambridge, **May 23d, 1810.** From her father ceived a boy's education, and early learned to read l languages fluently. She taught in Providence and ı, and in 1839 formed a conversation class for the ladies of Boston, which her unequalled conversation- ers made very popular and famous. She afterward . a paper, travelled in the West, wrote for the *New Tribune*, and in 1846 visited Europe. In Italy she :d the Marquis d' Ossoli and took a deep interest in ılian revolution then occurring. In 1850, the ship in , with her husband and child, she was returning home, vrecked off New Jersey and all three were lost. garet Fuller was a critic of great originality and ɔf mind, ripe culture, and fearlessness of utterance." ɡh she left few literary productions, her tragic fate, courage, and her reputation as the most brilliant rsationalist of her time, render her one of the most sting women *of America.*

1884

SATURDAY

May 24

'he Telegraph, 1844.—Though various experiments lectric telegraphy were made in Europe in the last ury, and by Prof. Henry and others in America be- 1830, the first practical invention of the kind was by :. S. F. B. Morse, in 1832. He patented it in 1837, finally, after several years of waiting, obtained a it of $30,000 from Congress to put his invention in :tice. The first news of this much-desired action of gress was told to Prof. Morse by Miss Annie Ells- th, daughter of the Commissioner of Patents, and in rn he promised her that she should send the first sage. Accordingly, when the line was completed be- en Baltimore and Washington, in 1844, she sent over wires, just **forty years ago to-day,** the first sage: "What hath God wrought?" The invention soon introduced all over the world, and there are in the United States alone more than 120,000 miles elegraph lines, which use wire enough to go more than 'en times around the globe.

"The mighty lightning herald sleeps
Till human touch awakes its fires
To send beyond the morning reach
New tidings ere a pulse expires."

1884

SUNDAY

May 25

Protestant Indian Missions.—The first Indian baptized by an English minister was Manteo, in 1587, in Virginia. Mayhew and Eliot, aided by the first Propagation Society, 1649, made many Indian converts in Mass.; and by 1685 there were 28 places for Indian worship in Plymouth colony, 2,000 adult church-members, and 3,000 "Praying Indians" in New England. Some of the Christian beliefs were hard for the Indian mind to understand, and they used to ask of Eliot such questions as these: "What is a Spirit?" "When such die as never heard of Christ, where do they go?" "Do they in heaven dwell in houses, and what do they do?" "Why did not God give all men good hearts?" "Since God is all powerful, why did he not kill the Devil, that made men so bad?" "When you choose magistrates how do you know who are good men, whom you dare trust?" "How shall I find happiness?" etc., etc.

1884

MONDAY

May 26

Pequot War, 1637.—The first trouble which t New England settlers had with the Indians was a war b tween the Pequots—the strongest northeastern tribe and the Connecticut settlers. The Pequots bitte resisted the encroachments of the English, and fina sent messengers to all the neighboring tribes to un for their extermination. Had it not been for the bra intercession of Roger Williams, the powerful Narragans tribe would have joined the Pequots, in which case t Connecticut settlers must have been almost exterminate In 1637 Captain John Mason with ninety whites and se eral hundred Indians conducted an expedition against t chief fort of the Pequots, near the present town of Stc ington. A great victory, followed by other successful tacks, resulted in the complete subjugation of the Pequ tribe, and in a peace which lasted nearly forty years.

> Look now abroad—another race has filled
> These populous borders—wide the wood recedes.
>
> —BRYAN

1884

TUESDAY

May 27

:neral Nathaniel Greene.—General Greene, :e birthday was **142 years ago to-day,** was one of ıost distinguished of the Revolutionary generals. He he son of a Rhode Island Quaker, and early showed a love for books, and especially for those on military :s. Enlisting as a private in the war, he was made :al in 1775, and gained the life-long friendship of ıington. Many times during the early years of the his courage and skill did much to retrieve the :ation of American arms, and in 1780, when he took ;e of the demoralized Southern army, *his* efforts ly brought the Revolution to a successful ter- .tion. He was presented by his grateful countrymen medals and other testimonials, including a planta- near Savannah, where he died in 1786. He is ersally admitted to have been second only to Wash- ɔn in military talent and in the important services :h he rendered to his country.

" Thy worth *shall with thy country's* name endure,
And greener grow thy name through every coming year."

1884

WEDNESDAY

May 28

Pacific Railway Opened, 1869.—During Pierce's administration, Congress ordered five surveys to be made in the western part of the United States, to ascertain the possibility of connecting the rich Pacific coast with the East by railroads. It was found practicable, and the construction of the road was begun in 1863. It was completed in **May, 1869,** and extended from Omaha, Nebraska, to San Francisco, a distance of 1900 miles. The two construction trains met in Utah, one party having traversed 882 miles, and the other 1032. The distance from New York to San Francisco could now be traversed in seven days, and the completion of the road was celebrated by great public rejoicings.

> What was it the Engines said,
> Pilots touching,—head to head
> Facing on the single track,
> Half a world behind each back?
>
> —Bret Harte.

1884

THURSDAY

May 29

Patrick Henry, 1736–1799.—"The great orator of Revolution" was born on the **27th of May, 1736, in** ginia. Till he was 29 years old, he failed in every ıg he undertook, but then, with one bound sprang ı the first ranks of American oratory. As a pleader in w case for the rights of Virginia planters, he suddenly ılayed such eloquence as made his hearers' "blood run l and their hair rise on end." When a member of the ıse of Burgesses, in 1765, his words against the "Stamp" became famous all over the colonies,—"Cæsar had Brutus, Charles I his Cromwell, and George III—" re he was interrupted by cries of "Treason ! !") "may fit by their example. If *that* be treason, make the st of it." As a delegate to the Philadelphia Congress, was hailed as a champion of liberty and one of the emost in the cause of independence. He was twice ernor of Virginia, and occupied other important itions till his death in 1799.

"Ah ! where are they, whose manly breasts
Beat back the pride of England's might?
Whose stalwart arm *laid* low the crest
Of many an old and valiant knight?"

1884

FRIDAY

May 30

Decoration Day.

Sleep, comrades, sleep and rest
On this Field of the Grounded Arms
Where foes no more molest,
Nor sentry's shot alarms!
All is repose and peace;
Untrampled lies the sod;
The shouts of battle cease;
It is the time of God.

Rest, comrades, rest and sleep!
The thoughts of men shall be
As sentinels to keep
Your rest from danger free;
Your silent tents of green
We deck with fragrant flowers:
Yours has the suffering been,
The memory shall be ours.

—LONGFELLOW'S *Last Poem.*

1884

SATURDAY

May 31

Maine.—The shores of Maine were first visited by the English explorer Gosnold, in 1602. Various unsuccessful attemps to settle were made by the English and French, until about 1639, when Sir Ferdinand Gorges obtained a charter from Charles I, and named the region (probably) in compliment to the queen, who was said to own the province of Maine in France. It finally came under the rule of the Massachusetts colony, who had always claimed it. The Maine settlers were mostly hunters and fishermen, and enjoyed more religious freedom than the Massachusetts or Connecticut colonists. As they were so near the French and Indian borders they suffered from attacks by the Indians, and one in every twenty colonists was said to have been killed in that way. Maine was finally admitted as a separate State in March, 1820.

"Fringed by ocean's foamy surges,
Smile thy shores, in hill and plain
Flower-enamelled, ocean-girdled,
Green bright shores of Maine."

1884

SUNDAY

June 1

The New England Primer.—The New England Primer of 1737, in which our forefathers were carefully instructed, is a curiosity which any one may consider himself fortunate to own. It contains easy spelling-lessons, alphabetical rhymes illustrated by comical wood-cuts, prayers for young children, the creed, and various precepts like the following:

Have communion with few,
Be intimate with ONE;
Deal justly by all,
Speak evil of none.

The primer also contains a curious wood-cut representing John Rogers followed to the stake by his wife and nine small children, and the book is concluded by a catechism.

Young Obadias,
David, Josias,
All were pious.

Young Samuel dear
The Lord did *fear.*

Xerxes did die
And so must I.

Zaccheus he
Did climb the tree
Our Lord to see.

1884

MONDAY

June 2

ennessee Admitted, 1796.—Tennessee was a part e country discovered by De Soto, but was not per- ntly colonized till 1754, when settlers from North lina came there with their slaves, which caused it for r years to be considered a part of that province. ne time the people tried to form a separate indepen- State under the name of Franklin, but they were ly admitted to the Union as the State of Tennessee, by ct passed June 1, 1796. At that time there were only w scattered settlements in Middle Tennessee, but n the Indians of the western portion were removed to Indian Territory, in 1819, the State increased rapidly opulation.

Land of the gallant and the free!
My native, native land, my Tennessee!

—PIKE.

1884

TUESDAY

June 3

War with Tripoli, 1803–1805.—During Jefferson's administration, the pirate crafts of the Barbary States so harassed American vessels and commerce along the Mediterranean, that, in 1803, war was at last declared between Barbary and the United States. One of the most brilliant victories of the war was the recapture of an American ship, then in the hands of the enemy, by Lieutenant Decatur, in a little Tripolitan vessel seized and occupied for the purpose. The following year the American fleet with four vessels (then two thirds of the whole United States Navy) bombarded Tripoli, and so intimidated the Barbary States, that a peace was finally arranged **June 3d, 1805,** which insured for many years a proper respect for the American flag on the Mediterranean Sea.

"In the conflict resistless each toil they endured,
Till their foes fled dismayed from the war's desolation;
And pale beamed the crescent, its splendor obscured
By the light of *the star-spangled* flag of our nation."

1884

WEDNESDAY

June 4

Origin of the Dollar Mark, $.—"Writers are not agreed as to the derivation of this sign. Some say it comes from the letters U. S., which, after the adoption of the Federal Constitution, were prefixed to the Federal currency, and which afterward, in the hurry of writing, were run into one another, the U being made first and the S over it. Others say that it is derived from the contraction of the Spanish word *pesos*, dollars; others, from the Spanish *fuertes*, hard,—to distinguish silver from paper money. The more plausible explanation is, that it is a modification of the figure 8, and denotes a piece of eight reals, or, as the dollar was formerly called, a piece of *eight*. It was then designated by the figures 8."—*Gleanings for the Curious.*

1884

THURSDAY

June 5

Alabama Admitted, 1819. — Alabama, meaning "rest" or "here we rest," was so called from the Indian name of the sluggish and sleepy-looking Alabama River. It was first explored by the French, who settled near Mobile between 1702 and 1713. Long Indian wars comprise its history, till it was ceded by the French to the English in 1763, and by them to the Federal Government at the close of the Revolution. Alabama was organized as a territory in 1817, and two years later was admitted as a State, adding the twenty-sixth star to the national flag. The Creek tribes of Alabama gave much trouble till they were removed in 1832. Alabama was one of the earliest States to secede in 1861, and the convention which formed the Confederate Government met at Montgomery, the State capital. In **June, 1868,** it was again received into the Union.

1884

FRIDAY

June 6

Nathan Hale, 1755-1776.—Hale, one of the noblest nartyrs of the Revolution, was born in Connecticut, **129 rears ago to-day.** As a Yale student and a teacher be-ore the war, and as a lieutenant in the Continental army, ıe was faithful in every duty. When, in September, 1776, t became necessary for Washington to obtain more in-formation about the enemy's quarters on Long Island, Hale offered himself as a spy for the purpose, remarking that "Every kind of service necessary to the public good becomes honorable by being necessary." Just before completing his dangerous errand, he was arrested by the British, and after twelve hours hung as a spy. Even his last letters to his friends were burned, "that the rebels should not know they had a man who could die with so much firmness." His dying regret was that he "had but *one* life to lose for his country."

1884

SATURDAY

June 7

First Proposal of Independence, 1776.—Although in March, 1775, Franklin wrote that he had never heard "from any person, drunk or sober," the least expression in favor of the independence of the colonies, by the next spring the feeling all over the land was that a separation from England was necessary. As the leading colony was Virginia, it was thought best that the first proposal of independence should come from her, to be seconded by Massachusetts. Accordingly, on the **7th of June, 1776,** Richard Henry Lee, of Virginia, offered the famous resolutions which declared the independence of the United Colonies, the expediency of forming foreign alliances, and of framing a plan of confederation. The discussion of these resolutions showed that some were not quite ready for independence; but by the end of the month every colony but one voted for it, and this resolution of Lee's was the forerunner of the great event of July 4th.

1884

SUNDAY

June 8

Nathan Hale, born June 6th.

* * * * * *

Neath the blue morn, the sunny morn
He dies upon the tree ;
And he mourns that he can lose
But one life for liberty ;
And in the blue morn, the sunny morn,
His spirit-wings are free.

* * * * * *

From the Fame-leaf and Angel-leaf,
From monument and urn,
The sad of earth, the glad of heaven,
His tragic fate shall learn ;
And on Fame-leaf and Angel-leaf
The name of Hale shall burn.

—F. M. Finch.

1884

MONDAY

June 9

ohn Howard Payne, 1791–1852.—Payne, a man varied talents, but now best known as the author of :ome, Sweet Home," was born in New York **93 years ɔ to-day.** During his education in Boston all possible ıns were used to suppress the inclination which he ly manifested for the stage, but on his father's death, in 2, the support of the family devolving upon him, he de his debut in a New York theatre. His success was rvellous, his youth and beauty aiding greatly in render- him the popular favorite of the time. He afterward oyed great triumphs on the English stage, and while in gland wrote for Charles Kemble the play of "Clari," which occurred the song of "Home, Sweet Home." ne was utterly devoid of commercial instinct, and was imposed upon and cheated that he finally died, in 1852, ı strange land, homeless and almost friendless,—a sad l for the author of a song which is sung in thousands ıomes in every land.

"In humble cottage, as in hall of state,
His truant *fancy never* ceased to roam
O'er backward years, and—irony of fate!—
Of home he sang who never found a home!"

1884

TUESDAY

June 10

Salem Witchcraft, 1692.—The belief in witchcraft, which had prevailed all over Europe for centuries, and brought thousands to the gallows, appeared in New England near the close of the seventeenth century, especially at Salem, where the first victim, Bridget Bishop, an old woman, was hung, **June 10, 1692.** Several children at first, and afterward many elderly and respectable people, were accused of being in league with the Devil to torment their neighbors or commit other diabolical crimes. While the excitement lasted, even the gravest magistrates and divines lost their wits, and no less than twenty innocent persons were hung and fifty-five others tortured. The next year the persecution came to an end, and some of the prominent actors in it as judges or accusers, overwhelmed with remorse, made public confession of their shame and sorrow.

> This sudden burst of wickedness and crime
> Was but the common madness of the time,
> When in all lands, that lie within the sound
> Of Sabbath *bells, a witch* was burned or drowned.
>
> —LONGFELLOW.

1884

WEDNESDAY

June 11

Gen. Joseph Warren, 1741–1775.—The first Revolutionary martyr of rank was Gen. Warren, whose heroic death at Bunker Hill "awakens the memory of a grief so deep and unusual that we feel as if we could almost weep for him as our fathers wept for him." 143 years ago to-day he was born in Massachusetts, **June 11, 1741,** and during the ante-revolutionary agitations was greatly beloved by the colonists for his philanthropy and patriotism. He was famous as a physician and an eloquent writer. On one occasion he delivered an oration in Old South Church, at the risk of his life. Though a major-general, he refused to take command at the battle of Bunker Hill. His bravery made him a target for the enemy's guns, and the Bunker Hill monument, 220 feet high, marks the spot where he fell. A British general said that his death was equal to that of 500 ordinary rebels.

—"Warren fell, in all the boast of arms,
The pride of genius and unrivalled charms,
His *country's hope!*"

1884

THURSDAY

June 12

'rench Settlements.—The history of the French lements in America is full of romance and interest, no other country sent out such devoted missionaries nterprising adventurers. Verrazani, in the service of ncis I of France, discovered Nova Scotia in 1524, twelve years later Cartier first visited the St. Law-:e. Huguenots attempted, unsuccessfully, to establish nselves in the Carolinas in 1562, but the first permanent nch settlements were made in 1605 at Port Royal, by Monts, and three years later by Champlain at Quebec. h the arrival of some Jesuit priests in Canada **two ıdred and seventy-three years ago to-day**, be- the great Jesuit mission among the Indians, which heroic endurance of persecutions and martyrdom has :qual in history. The vast region of the Mississippi was :overed by Marquette and La Salle, and was governed France till its cession to England in the eighteenth ıtury.

1884

FRIDAY

June 13

Flag of the United States.—On June 13, 1777, Congress voted "that the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

There is a striking resemblance between our flag and Washington's coat of arms, from which some think it was copied. At first a new stripe as well as star was added for every new State, but this was discontinued when the flag became too large. Captain Paul Jones was the first to raise this flag over an American ship-of-war. Before this was adopted, other designs were used by the colonies, among them the "pine tree flag" and the "rattlesnake flag."

And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

—W. S. Key.

1884

SATURDAY

June 14

Princeton College, 1746.—The Presbyterian Synod of New York obtained in 1746 a charter for the "College of New Jersey," which, opened in 1747 at Elizabethtown, was later removed to Newark, and thence to Princeton. Its oldest building is Nassau Hall, named for William III of the house of Nassau, which during the Revolution was the scene of many stirring events. Among the most famous presidents of Princeton were Jonathan Dickinson, Jonathan Edwards, and Dr. Witherspoon. Under Dr. McCosh, its last president, the growth of the college has been very marked, and over two million two hundred thousand dollars have been donated to it.

In North, South, East, and West,
Our land shall still be blest,
By thee, Nassau!
Hundreds of noble youth,
In future shall go forth,
Moulded in sacred truth,
From thee, Nassau!

—T. D. Supler.

1884

SUNDAY

June 15

[The Rev. S. F. SMITH, a Baptist minister, born in 08, now settled at Newton, Mass., is the author of our ıtional Hymn.]

My country, 't is of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
  Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died!
Land of the Pilgrim's pride!
From every mountain side
  Let freedom ring!

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
  Sweet freedom's song:
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,—
  The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God! to thee,
Author of liberty,
  To thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
  Great *God, our* King!

1884

MONDAY

June 16

Louisburg, 1745.—" King George's War," which was one of the early French and Indian wars, was a continuation of the dispute caused by the conflicting claims of the French and English. The most important event of the war was the capture of the French fortress at Louisburg, on the Nova Scotia coast, which was so strong it was called the "Gibraltar of the North." Nearly 4,000 New Englanders, under General Pepperell, set out from Massachusetts, and though they carried but one fifth as much artillery as the French, they succeeded, after a siege of fifty days, in forcing the garrison to surrender on **the 16th of June, 1745.** Though the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle restored Louisburg to the French, the victory was of great importance, as showing how well the colonists could fight without aid from England.

1884

TUESDAY

June 17

Battle of Bunker Hill, 1775.—After the Battle Lexington, the British troops, under General Gage, e confined in the city of Boston by the rapidly in-asing colonial army. The battle, which was fought **years ago to-day,** was an attempt by the British to ce the colonists from their position on Bunker Hill, of the most important defences of Boston. As 4,000 the British troops advanced upon the 2,000 or 3,000 ericans, Captain Prescott restrained the latter from ng till the enemy had come within eight rods. The d-fought battle which followed, resulted in a victory neither side, but the American loss of men was only f as great as the British. On the spot where General rren, the brave American commander fell, Lafayette, t fifty years after, laid the corner-stone of a memorial elisk 220 feet high. Its completion in 1842, at a cost about $100,000, was celebrated by an oration by Daniel bster on the 17th of June, 1843.

A shot ! Ah ! he falls, but his life's latest sigh
Is : " 'T is sweet, oh, 't is sweet for our country to die ! "
And thus Warren fell ! Happy death ! noble fall !
To perish for country at Liberty's call !

—COOKE.

1884

WEDNESDAY

June 18

War of 1812.—The war between England and the United States, which was declared **June 18, 1812,** and lasted nearly three years, resulted from disputes about the British right of searching American vessels and restrictions laid upon American commerce. The American forces were mostly unsuccessful on land, but their brilliant naval victories finally forced the British to agree to a treaty of peace, signed at Ghent, December 24, 1814. The great naval battles of the war were: the capture of the British frigate *Guerrière* by Captain Hull of the *Constitution;* the British capture of the United States ship *Chesapeake*, whose noble captain, Lawrence, was killed while exclaiming: "Don't give up the ship!"; and the battle of Lake Erie, where a whole British squadron surrendered to Captain Perry. The last great battle was the brave defence of New Orleans by General Jackson. Since the Treaty of Ghent "there has been peace between the two great English-speaking peoples."

And thy Saxon blood shall join ye,
Never to be torn apart,
Moving onward to the future,
Hand in hand and heart to heart.

—NEWELL.

1884

THURSDAY

June 19

The Erie Canal, 1825.—The war with England in 1812 so interrupted trade on the Atlantic coast as to induce a great westward migration. The need of water communication between the great lakes and the Hudson had long been felt, for the expense of transportation of produce along the old roads from Buffalo to New York was so great as in the case of wheat to be three times its value and in that of oats twelve times. Gouverneur Morris proposed and carried through the construction of the Erie Canal, which was 360 miles in length—the longest in the world,—and was built in eight years and four months, at an expense of nine and a half million dollars, and was finished amid great rejoicings in 1825. This canal, which opened up trade with the West, paid for itself in ten years, and contributed greatly to the growth of Western cities. Rochester nearly tripled its population by 1835, and Buffalo, which had in 1820 only 2,000 inhabitants, fifteen years later numbered eight times as many.

"Our internal ditches, the wonder of witches,
Will add to our riches and cherish our trade;
While steam- and canal-boats, and huge ships and sail-boats,
And packets and *mail-boats*, our commerce will aid."

1884

FRIDAY

June 20

King Philip's War, 1675–1677.—The first battle of the second great Indian war was fought on the **20th of June, 1675.** Philip, the son of Massasoit, the old friend of the Pilgrims, united the Indian tribes of New England in a league to drive the English from the soil. His plans were so well made that the war broke out along a line of two hundred miles almost at the same time. Twelve or thirteen towns were entirely destroyed, and the massacres at Brookfield and Hadley were scenes of terrible butchery. No white man was secure against the cruel cunning of the Indian. Captain Winslow with 1,000 men finally gained a great victory in Rhode Island, and the next year Philip's wife and child were captured. "My heart breaks," said the chief; "now I am ready to die." He too was at last killed; and so ended a war which had lasted two years, and in which one family in every eleven was burned out, and every eleventh soldier perished.

"Constrained by unknown laws,
Judged guilty without cause,
Maddened by treachery,
What wonder that his tortured spirit rose
And turned upon his foes,
And told his wrongs in words that still we see
Recorded *on the page of* history."

1884

SATURDAY

June 21

New Hampshire Settled, 1623.—Although New Hampshire was first visited by Martin Pring in 1603, its earliest settlements were in 1623, at Dover and Portsmouth. It was at first called "Laconia," and afterward "New Hampshire," from the English county from which many of its settlers came. It joined the Massachusetts Colony in 1641 for protection against the Indians. Most of the early settlers went to New Hampshire for the fishing; and when a certain minister told them they must be more religious, since that was their main end in going there, they replied: "Sir, you are mistaken. You think you are speaking to the people of Massachusetts Bay. Our main end was to catch fish!" New Hampshire became a separate province in 1741, and was one of the original thirteen States of the Union. It ratified the Constitution June 1, 1788.

1884

SUNDAY

June 22

Two hundred and fifty-four years ago to-day, Governor Winthrop and 800 Puritans landed at Salem, Mass. The following are extracts from a poem written in commemoration of the event.

With one purpose they go—
To knit life to life, a new nation, and grow
In the strength of the Lord.
There is hope in their eyes, though it gleams thro' regret;
They go not as those who can lightly forget
The Church—their dear mother—the land of their birth,
In the glamour that flushes an unexplored earth.
One and all, they have taken their lives in their hand,
To be scattered as seed in a wilderness land.

—LUCY LARCOM.

1884

MONDAY

June 23

Ku-Klux Outrages.—The Ku-Klux Klan was the le of a secret association which existed in the Southern ates from 1866 to 1872, for the purpose of opposing the epublican party, and especially to prevent all negroes, ' threats and violence, from voting the Republican cket. For several years the press was filled with deriptions of the terrible acts of atrocity which were comitted by this secret organization, and in 1871 Congress dered an investigation to be made. An immense mass evidence was collected, showing that there were at one me 550,000 members of the Klan, and that innumerable urders were committed on negroes and Northern symathizers by hideously disguised bands of armed men, ho made midnight visits for the purpose. Each memer was sworn, on penalty of death, to obey the orders of is leader. The organization gradually died out after 871, as the bitter feelings between the North and South liminished.

Shall Republicans be slain by a masquerading clan,
While the Democrats are *voting* as often as they can?

—*Bourbon Ballad.*

1884

TUESDAY

June 24

Cabot's Discoveries, 1497.—In 1495 John Cabot, a Venetian merchant, of Bristol, obtained from King Henry VII of England a patent to sail on a voyage of discovery and to claim all new lands for England. On **the 24th of June** he reached the New Foundland coast, and gave it the name of "Prima Vista" (*first view*). On his return he presented the king with three savages and two turkeys —the latter then an unknown bird. Great honors were paid to Cabot, and he was called "the Great Admiral." A year later his son, Sebastian Cabot, set sail with three hundred men and skirted the American coast from Labrador to Maryland. On a second voyage he explored Hudson's Bay. England thus secured a title to a great tract of land, which she made no attempt to colonize for many years. Of Sebastian Cabot it was said: "He gave England a continent, and no one knows his burial-place."

"'T was a claim for their kindred; an earnest of sway,
By the stout-hearted *Cabot* made good in his day."

1884

WEDNESDAY

June 25

"Dorr War," 1842.—The "Dorr Rebellion" was a revolt against the old charter of Roger Williams, by which Rhode Island had been governed for two hundred years. Certain restrictions in the old constitution on voting induced a large portion of the inhabitants to form themselves into a "suffrage party," elect a governor, and frame a new constitution. Though the constitution was adopted by 14,000 voters, it was not considered legal by the Legislature and a large portion of the State. The "suffrage" Governor, Thos. Dorr, attempted to defend his position by seizing the arsenal, but being defeated, he was tried for treason **forty years ago to-day,** and sentenced to imprisonment for life. He was released, however, after three years, and his rebellion, though unsuccessful, resulted in the framing of a new constitution in 1843.

1884

THURSDAY

June 26

Arkansas, 1836.—The first European who trod the soil of Arkansas was probably De Soto, or one of his men, but no settlement was made till about 1680, by Frenchmen under Bienville, near the junction of the St. Francis with the Mississippi. Forty years later Louis XV granted part of the land to the famous John Law, of the "Mississippi Scheme," on condition of his bringing over 1,500 Germans to settle it; but the Germans did not come, and it was long after the Revolution before a permanent settlement was made. Arkansas belonged to the French till 1803, and when it became a territory in 1819 the entire white population was less than 1000. It was admitted as a State in June, 1836, seceded in 1861, but practically returned to the Union a year before the Rebellion closed. Its capital is at Little Rock, and the State nickname is "Bear State."

"Land of the West! where naught is old
Or fading, but tradition hoary,—
Thy yet unwritten annals hold
Of many a daring deed the story!"

1884

FRIDAY

June 27

Mormonism Begun, 1830.—A Vermont man named Joe Smith obtained possession of a romance written by Spaulding, of Ohio, and in 1830 published it as the "Book of Mormon." The same year he founded the Mormon Church, with 3 high-priests, 12 apostles, and 70 elders. Polygamy, gifts of prophecy, and the inspiration of the "Book of Mormon" and the Bible are its tenets. The Mormons settled first in Ohio, then moved to Missouri, and thence to Illinois, where Joe Smith was shot on the **27th of June.** Brigham Young then became president, and in 1846 they went to Utah Territory where they now number about 120,000. They also hold the balance of power in Idaho and Arizona, and "look forward with confidence to the day when they will hold the reins of the United States Government." Ineffectual attempts have been made by Congress to suppress the polygamy of Mormonism, which, with its constant accession of foreign proselytes, and its unity in voting, has become a serious problem for the United States.

"Wilt thou not, yet again,
Put forth the sleeping strength that in thee lies,
And snap the shameful chain,
And force that tyrant train
To flee before the anger in thine eyes?"

1884

SATURDAY

June 28

Madison, President, 1809–1817.—James Madison, fourth President of the United States, was a Virginian, and one of the signers of the Constitution. He was Secretary of State under Jefferson, succeeded him as President in 1809, and died on the **28th of June, 1836.** The early part of his administration was occupied with the English aggressions which led to the war of 1812, and the last part with the war itself. The Indian war, in which General Harrison defeated Tecumseh, the admission of Louisiana in 1812, and of Indiana in 1816, and the burning of Washington by the British—also occurred while Madison was President. "His administration was weakest when the pressure was upon executive discretion, and strongest when its course was dictated by the popular wishes—of which Madison had always a delicate perception."

1884

SUNDAY

June 29

Moravians.—The Moravians are a sect which found their origin in the doctrines of Huss. They were persecuted and expelled from Moravia, their principal seat, and finally reorganized as a church by Count Zinzendorf, who became their leading bishop, and established a very high order of Christian excellence among them. He sent ten of his followers to Georgia in 1736, but five years afterward they removed to the town of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, where they number 30,000 members. For many years all lands and goods were shared in common, but this system, called the "Economy," was finally abolished. The Moravians are governed by synods and a band of twelve bishops. Their missionary labors among the Indians in foreign countries have been so great, that about 2,500 missionaries have been sent out through their efforts. They have always remained true to their original covenant: "We will assist each other in the spirit of love, live honestly, and study to be patient."

1884

MONDAY

June 30

Massachusetts Colony Land at Salem, 1629.—On the 30th of June, the Rev. Francis Higginson, with two hundred men, landed at Salem. They were Puritans who had sailed from England to find greater freedom of worship. John Endicott, with a few men, had arrived before them, and the next year, Gov. Winthrop joined them with eight hundred. These, together, formed the Massachusetts Colony and afterward settled Boston. They suffered from hunger and disease, and other hardships, but their religious zeal and thrifty courage triumphed over all. "No idle drone may live amongst us" was the spirit as well as the law of the dauntless community which was to train the sterility of New England into a cluster of wealthy States. In 1692, the Massachusetts Colony united with the Plymouth Colony under the name of Massachusetts, an Indian word meaning "Blue Hills."

1884
TUESDAY
July 1

Battle of Gettysburg, 1863.—After the great Union defeat at Chancellorsville, Va., in May, 1863, a period of great discouragement followed in the North. The cost of the war had been enormous, and the continued drafts for soldiers were very unpopular. Under these circumstances General Lee resolved to invade the Northern States, and probably nothing could have so effectually reunited the Northern people as his actual invasion of their soil. Lee met General Meade on **July 1st,** at Gettysburg, Pa., each with an army of eighty thousand men. In the terrific three days' battle which followed, each side admired the valor of the other, but at last, on the 3d of July, a bold raid of the Confederates was repulsed by General Meade, and Lee was forced to retreat, after a loss on each side of more than twenty thousand men. The battle saved the North, and may be regarded as the turning-point of the war. The field was afterward consecrated as a national cemetery.

So time went on.—The skies were blue;
  Our wheat-fields yellow in the sun;
When down the vale a rider flew;
  Ho! neighbors, Gettysburg is won!

Horse and foot at the cannon's mouth
We hurled them back to the hungry South;
The North is safe! and the vile marauder
Curses the hour he crossed the border.

—E. D. Proctor.

THE CONSTITUTION OF ALBUQUERQUE

ARTICLE IV. BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1884

WEDNESDAY

July 2

Garfield Assassinated, 1881.—Shortly after President Garfield's inauguration, his aged mother remarked to him, as she left him to start on a journey, "James, I wish you to take good care of yourself, for I am afraid somebody will shoot you!"—"Why, mother," he asked, in astonishment, "who would wish to shoot me?" His question was answered just **three years ago to-day,** when the news of his dastardly assassination in the Washington depot, by Charles Guiteau, sent through the land a thrill of horror only equalled by that at Lincoln's death.

Do you remember yet, how, on that woful day,
The pulse of the nation stopped with a shock of wild dismay,
And voiceless horror looked from questioning eyes to eyes,
As the murmur widened and spread—"Our President murdered lies"?

—C. T. Dazey.

Blot the foul deed from history's page,—
Let not the all-betraying sun
Blush for the day that stains an age
When murders' blackest wreath was won.

—O. W. Holmes.

THE QUESTION OF AUTHORITY IN MILITARY REVOLUTIONS

1884

THURSDAY

July 3

Indian Massacres of the Revolution, 1778.—The two most terrible massacres of the Revolution were those at Wyoming and Cherry Valley, during the campaign of 1778. The former occurred **106 years ago to-day.** While the strong men of the beautiful valley of Wyoming, Penn., were absent in the army, a band of Indians and Tories attacked and burned the forts in which the women and children had taken refuge, though they were bravely defended by the three hundred old men and boys who were left behind. Nearly all of either sex, old or young, were captured and cruelly put to death, until, at the close of that terrible first week in July, the valley was desolate. The same scene was repeated in November of the same year at Cherry Valley, in New York, by Mohawk Indians and British. At last, in 1779, these outrages were punished by a defeat of the principal chiefs of the Six Nations.

"On Susquehanna's side, fair Wyoming,
Although the wild flower on thy ruined wall
And roofless homes a sad remembrance bring
Of what thy gentle people did befall,
Yet thou wert once the loveliest land of all."

1884

SATURDAY

July 5

Abercrombie's Defeat at Ticonderoga, 1758.—126 years ago to-day, Lake George presented a scene of unrivalled splendor, when the English General Abercrombie sailed over its waters with the largest army that had then been assembled in America. As over one thousand boats bearing his sixteen thousand men advanced with waving banners and martial music, it seemed as if they were sure of victory over Montcalm and the French, who had taken possession of the important fortress of Ticonderoga at the foot of the lake. But in the battle which occurred on the next two days, the British suffered one of the greatest defeats of the last French and Indian War. Though the French garrison consisted of only three thousand men, the British were repulsed with a loss of nearly two thousand in killed and wounded, including the death of Lord Howe, one of the bravest and best of British officers, who now lies in Westminster Abbey. Abercrombie, a most inefficient officer, hastily retreated in fright and consternation.

To win this virgin land,—a kingly quest,—
  Chivalric deeds were wrought ;
Lone by thy marge, and on thy placid breast,
  The Gaul and Saxon fought.

—TUCKERMAN.

1884

SUNDAY

July 6

Independence Hymn.

'hen we upon the eastern coast lie down to happy rest,
he Day of Independence rolls still onward to the west,
'ill dies on the Pacific shore the shout of jubilee,
'hat woke the morning with its voice along the Atlantic sea.
' God! look down upon the land which thou hast loved so well,
nd grant that in unbroken truth her children still may dwell;
'or, while the grass grows on the hill and streams flow through the vale,
Iay they forget their fathers' faith or in their covenant fail!
'od keep the fairest, noblest land that lies beneath the sun;
Our country, our whole country, and our country ever one."

—Geo. W. Bethune.

1884

MONDAY

July 7

Fremont in California, 1846.—California which was discovered and claimed by Spain in the sixteenth century, became a part of Mexico when that province declared itself independent of Spanish rule in 1822. About the time of the outbreak of the war between Mexico and the United States in 1846, Colonel John Fremont, who was then with an exploring party in California, resolved to erect an independent government in the territory. Having called the people together he recommended to them to declare their independence of Mexico, but hearing that Commodore Stockton of the United States Navy had taken Monterey on the coast, he determined instead that it should be a United States province, and accordingly on **July 7, 1846,** first raised the stars and stripes in that region. With the help of Stockton, the United States Government was soon established in California, so extensive a country having rarely been subjugated by so small a force. California was admitted as a free State in 1850, after a long and exciting discussion as to whether slavery should be permitted in its territory.

"Land of gold! thy sisters greet thee,
O'er the mountain and the main;
See,—they stretch the hand to meet thee,
Fairest of our household train."

THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LIBRARY

1884

TUESDAY

July 8

ırrender of Port Hudson, 1863.—By the sur-
er of Port Hudson, the last Confederate fort on the
issippi, **July 8, 1863,** the Union forces gained
ɔlete command of the river. This important event
the result of the surrender of Vicksburg, which had
rred four days before. Vicksburg had been invested
ıe Federal armies under Grant as early as May, 1863,
had held out bravely under General Pemberton for
ly seven weeks, enduring three terrific assaults,
suffering greatly from scarcity of food and water.
last it had been obliged to surrender on the 4th
uly, with fifteen generals, 31,600 men, and 172
ıon—"the greatest capitulation of men and material
had then ever been made in war, and only surpassed
in the capture of Metz and Paris by the Germans."
with the surrender of Port Hudson a few days later
d the war on the Mississippi, and divided the
federacy into two parts which were never afterward
ıited.

For sixty days and upward
A storm of shell and shot
Rained round us in a flaming shower,
But still we faltered not!

—[*From the Bombardment of Vicksburg*, by P. H. HAYNE.]

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LIBRARIES

1884

'EDNESDAY

July 9

lock's Defeat, 1755.—One of the most im-
vents of the last French and Indian war (1755–
s Braddock's defeat, which was caused by the
fident pride of a British general, and his utter
l of the advice of colonists experienced in Indian
In July, 1755, General Braddock, with an army
British regulars and colonists, set out to reduce
of Fort Du Quesne (afterward Pittsburg), which
e possession of the French. Braddock declared
de-de-camp, Washington, who urged him to pre-
Indian ambuscades, that while the savages might
dable to raw militia, they could make no impres-
he king's troops. As the army was advancing in
litary splendor through a narrow ravine, it was
attacked by a band of French and Indians, whose
us fire from every surrounding rock and tree,
such havoc, that seven hundred British, including
k himself, were killed or mortally wounded, and
ness and bravery of Washington alone enabled
of the army to retreat. This defeat caused
l horror throughout America, but it showed the
the "raw colonial troops," and taught the Indians
e the English and reverence the French.

"In *Britain's cause, with* valor fired,
Braddock, unhappy chief! expired."

1884
THURSDAY
July 10

e British in Rhode Island, 1777.—During the and summer of 1777, the inhabitants of Connecti- ıd Rhode Island were greatly harassed by the ı. Governor Tryon, with 2,000 men, destroyed the y stores collected at Danbury, Connecticut, and ered and devastated a large part of the state, but was y met and repulsed by a body of American militia Generals Wooster, Arnold, and Silliman, who about 300 British, with a loss of only one-fifth as on their own side. In Rhode Island the British were commanded by General Prescott, whose y made him so hateful to the Americans that a soldier of Providence, Lieutenant-Colonel Barton, ed to punish him. Accordingly, on the night of 0, 1777, with forty men he rowed silently by the 's camp near Newport, seized the sentinel, broke Prescott's house, took him captive in bed, and d to his boats before he was discovered by the ı. Congress rewarded the gallant act by presenting ı with a sword and a colonelship.

Thus did they cross and march away,
Where Prescott's host encampéd lay
  On hostile measures bent;
Young David took this bloody Saul,
And sentry, aide-de-camp, and all,
  Back to the boat they went.

—*Revolutionary Ballad.*

1884

FRIDAY

July 11

John Quincy Adams, President, 1825-1829.—John Quincy Adams, who was born **July 11th, 1767,** was trained from childhood in the service of his country, having filled several important foreign missions, and been at different times Senator and Secretary of State, before he was elected the sixth President of the United States. But, though he was an upright and able statesman, and his administration peaceful, it was not altogether popular, for his political opponents who were defeated at the election did much to harass him, and there were also many troublesome political questions. During his term of office much was done to open the West for settlement, and many public improvements were inaugurated. The first Erie Canal was opened in 1825, and four years later the first steam locomotive was introduced, which was soon followed by many new lines of railroad. As to whether great public works should be at the expense of the Government, or of the separate States, there was great debate, and also on the tariff question. The country celebrated its fiftieth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1826. Mr. Adams, later in served as *Member of Congress* for seventeen years, *finally died in the House* of Representatives in

1884

SATURDAY

July 12

The "Embargo" of 1807.—During the war be-
:en England and France, in the first years of the pres-
century, the United States, though occupying a posi-
n of neutrality, suffered greatly from British aggressions
the ocean. England insisted on the right of searching
ıerican vessels for British deserters, and, in so doing,
ıayed such injustice, particularly in the "Chesapeake
ir," that a large part of the American people demanded
In order to injure English trade President Jefferson
ly, in **July, 1807,** laid an embargo on American
ls, preventing them from leaving home ports. The
e was found to be so injurious to American com-
, however, that in 1808 it was changed to an act of
ıtercourse. The trouble at last culminated in the
1812.

We own the ocean tu, John;
You mus'n' take it hard,
Ef we can't think with you, John,
It's jest your own back-yard.
Old Uncle S. sez he, "I guess
Ef *thet's* his claim," sez he,
"The fencin' stuff 'll cost enough
To bust up friend J. B.
Ez wal ez you an me!"

—LOWELL'S *Biglow Papers.*

1884

SUNDAY

July 13

igion and State Governments.—Many of the Constitutions which were framed soon after the ation of Independence, show how much more the on of religion entered into State government, than present day. The Constitution of South Carolina ted that a qualified voter must acknowledge a God state of future rewards and punishments and no uld hold any position of honor or trust under the who was not a member of some established church. onstitution of Pennsylvania required, that its State entatives should be "persons most noted for wisdom tue," and prescribed penalties for any elector "who receive any gift or reward for his vote in meat, monies, or otherwise." It declared, also, that ever an office, through increase of fees or otherwise, es so profitable as to occasion many to apply for it, ofits ought to be lessened by legislature"!!

Preserve Religion Pure, and Understand
That is the firmest Pillar of a Land:
Let it be kept in Credit in the Court,
And never fail for want of due Support.

ROGER WOLCOTT (1725).

1884

MONDAY

July 14

Burr's Conspiracy, 1806.—Aaron Burr, a brilliant but unprincipled statesman, who was Vice-President under Jefferson, lost the confidence and respect of the American people and a re-election to the Vice-Presidency on account of his murderous duel with Alexander Hamilton. In 1805 he made an expedition to the West, where his fervid imagination and lawless ambition devised a romantic scheme, the details of which have never been exactly known, but which undoubtedly involved an invasion of Mexico and the hope of establishing a separate government over the Western States, with himself at its head. He raised many recruits among the Westerners, and collected arms at his headquarters on Blenerhasset Island in the Ohio river. In the midst of his preparations the plot was revealed to the United States Government, the island was left desolate, and Burr himself fled to the forests of Mississippi, where he was finally captured. In the trial which the eloquence of Wirt has made famous, Burr was at last acquitted for lack of sufficient evidence, but though he escaped the penalty of treason, his public career was at an end, and having forever lost the trust and respect of the people, he finally died in obscurity at the age of *eighty.*

1884

TUESDAY

July 15

Wayne's Capture of Stony Point, 1779.—General Anthony Wayne, on account of his many brilliant exploits, was one of the most popular heroes of the Revolution. In July, 1779, Washington selected him to recapture from the British the almost impregnable fortress of Stony Point on the Hudson. On the night of the **15th of July,** Wayne and a small number of chosen men surprised the guard at the foot of the fort which lay on a rocky height only accessible by a steep and narrow path. He then led his men up the hill in two divisions, each with a bit of white paper in his hat by which to be distinguished in the darkness. Just before reaching the fort the garrison was aroused and fired. Wayne was wounded, but was carried at the head of the storming party, and finally forced the British to surrender, with a loss of 600 of either killed or wounded, while he lost but one sixth that number. For his gallant conduct Congress gave him a gold medal and a vote of thanks.

> Then valiant Wayne, with kindled anger warm,
> Bared his red blade and claimed to drive the storm.
>
> —HUMPHREYS.

1884

WEDNESDAY

July 16

Riots in New York City, 1863.—From the 13th to the **16th of July, 1863,** a reign of terror existed in the city of New York, in consequence of a large draft of troops ordered by the President for the third campaign of the Civil War. The defeats of the Federal armies and the growth of the "peace party" made the measure so unpopular, that armed resistance to the recruiting officers soon followed. On the 13th excited mobs burned down the Colored Orphan Asylum and other buildings. Thieves and Irish assassins joined the rioters in the most fiendish outrages, especially on the negroes, and in the absence of the city militia in Philadelphia, the police were unable to quell the riots, which made the three days memorable for their horrors. On **the 16th,** after more than 100 persons had been killed, and over $2,000,000 worth of property had been destroyed, a sufficient force of government troops finally arrived and restored order.

And who shall marvel, if evil went
Step by step with the good intent?

—WHITTIER.

1884

THURSDAY

July 17

Captain Kidd, 1645–1700.—Ever since the first cargo of New England produce was taken by Gosnold to Europe in 1602, the commerce, which rapidly increased between European countries and the colonies, was greatly molested by pirates. To suppress their ravages, the British Admiralty in 1696 sent out Robert Kidd, a bold English sea-captain. As the governor of New York and King William received the greater part of the results of his several expeditions, he finally turned pirate himself, and for two years pursued a reckless course of robbery and rapine, and captured enormous treasure. **In July, 1699,** he was at last arrested in Boston and forced to surrender his booty. Being sent to England for trial, he was found guilty of murder and piracy, and hung in 1700. After his death it was rumored that he had, prior to his capture, buried vast sums of gold, and the coast of Long Island Sound and even of the lower Hudson River have been many times searched for the hidden treasure, of which none has yet been discovered.

"Ever since the days of Captain Kidd
The Yankees think there 's money hid."

1884

FRIDAY

July 18

Constitutional Amendments.—An amendment to the Constitution of the United States must be proposed by two thirds of each House of Congress and be ratified by three fourths of all the States before it can become a law. Since the Constitution was adopted in 1787, fifteen amendments have been added. The first ten, which were demanded by many of the States and were adopted in 1789, were intended to guard freedom of religion, speech, person, and property. The eleventh amendment which was passed in 1793, secured the non-interference of the United States judicial power in any lawsuits between one State and citizens of another, and has enabled many States to repudiate debts. Eleven years later the twelfth amendment changed the old form of Presidential election to the present method. The thirteenth amendment was made in 1865, and abolished slavery in the United States. The fourteenth, which was passed in **July 1868**, notwithstanding the disapproval of President Johnson, provided for the civil rights of freedmen, and the last and fifteenth amendment (passed in 1870) gave them the right to vote.

"No perfect whole can our nature make,
Here or there the circle will break."

1884

SATURDAY

July 19

The Oregon Question, 1846.—During the early part of President Polk's administration, the "Oregon Question" was a subject of much political debate in both Houses of Congress, and among the people generally; the reason being a dispute between England and the United States as to its northern boundary. By a convention held in 1827, it was decided that the two countries should hold the boundary region in common, until a twelve-months' notice by either party should terminate the joint ownership. Finally, in 1846, the notice was served by the United States after much heated discussion on the matter. The United States claimed the region as far north as 54° 40′ north latitude, and "Fifty-four forty, or fight" was a favorite party cry during the Presidential campaign. At last, by a compromise in 1846, the boundary line was satisfactorily settled at the 49th parallel, where it still remains. In 1850, the "Donation Law," giving 740 acres to married settlers, greatly increased emigration to Oregon.

"Shall one hour dissever races
Thus allied by kindred fame,
Speaking both one common language,
Men with blood and bards the same?"

1884

SUNDAY

July 20

Arbitration Instead of War.

We want no aid of barricade
  To show a front to wrong;
We have a citadel in truth,
  More durable and strong.
Calm words, great thoughts, unflinching faith
  Have never striven in vain;
They 've won our battles many a time,
  And so they shall again.
Our spears and swords are printed words,
  The mind our battle plain;
We 've won such victories before,
  And so we shall again.
We love no triumphs sprung of force—
  They stain her brightest cause:
'T is not in blood that Liberty
  Inscribes her civil laws.
She writes them on the peoples' heart
  In language clear and plain;
True thoughts have moved the world before.
  And so they shall again.

—C. MACKAY.

1884

MONDAY

July 21

ıttle of Bull Run, 1861.—When the Rebellion n in April, 1861, it was very generally thought at Vorth that it would be easily quelled in three months; at the end of ninety days, after various successes defeats, the Federal forces were so overwhelmingly :n at Bull Run in Virginia, that all thoughts of a ly close to the war were given up. On the **21st of ', 1861,** General McDowell and 30,000 Northern ›s engaged in a severe battle with about the same ber of Confederates under Beauregard. The result ıe action was doubtful till a sudden reinforcement of hern troops caused a total rout of the Union forces, nearly 500 killed and more than 2,000 wounded and ıners. This first great battle of the war roused the ernment to more serious effort to provide for the gle now begun in earnest.

They say the battle has been lost. What then?
There is no need of tears, and doleful strains:
The holy Cause for which we fought remains,
And millions of unconquerable men.
The battle is *not* lost while men remain,
Free men, and brave, like ours, to fight again!

—R. H. STODDARD.

1884

TUESDAY

July 22

ssissippi Scheme, 1717–1720.—In the early part eighteenth century, the great district of Louisiana f the Mississippi River, which had been owned by e ever since its discovery by La Salle in 1679, was ıbject of a wild colonization plan projected in e by John Law, a Scotch banker. His famous *sippi Scheme* was a plan for relieving the bank- 'rench treasury by parcelling out the valley of the sippi among stock-jobbers and commercial gam- For a time it was successful. A mania for specu- seized all classes of Frenchmen, for Louisiana was sed to abound in precious metals and to be a se on earth. The bubble burst in **July, 1720,** ın existence of three years. Law fled, and France lunged in deeper poverty and misery than before. scheme had, however, contributed greatly to the rity of Louisiana by sending thousands of colonists l homes within its borders.

The full region leads
New colonies forth, that toward the western seas
Spread like a rapid flame among the autumnal trees.

—BRYANT.

1884

WEDNESDAY

July 23

The Burning of the Gaspée, 1772.—One of the most stirring events which heralded the Revolutionary War occurred in Rhode Island in the **summer of 1772.** The trade laws established by England were particularly obnoxious to the colonists, and the Rhode Island people resolved to resist a British armed schooner, the *Gaspée*, which had been stationed off their coast to prevent any illegal trading. This duty had been discharged with such needless severity, and the crew and officers had become so unpopular, that at half-past nine one summer evening in 1772 eight boat-loads of men boarded the *Gaspée*, which had accidentally run aground. The officers were removed, and the ship with all its stores burned. Though a reward of $5,000 was offered for the offenders, and though every child in Providence knew their names, not one was ever reported to the British commissioners, and the inquiry finally dropped.

In seventeen hundred and seventy-two,
In Newport harbor lay a crew,
Which did provoke to high degree
Those true-born sons of Liberty,—
So that they could no longer bear
Those sons of Belial staying there.

—*Revolutionary Ballad*

1884

THURSDAY

July 24

Whiskey Rebellion in Pennsylvania, 1791–1794.—In July, 1791, Congress passed a bill which laid a heavy tax on the distillation of whiskey. The law met with violent opposition in western Pennsylvania, where the article was largely manufactured, and a rebellion was organized to resist the collecting officers. After many mass meetings and various violences, the insurrection reached a climax in **July 1794**, when a mob of five hundred men led by a notorious rioter, "Tom the Tinker," attacked and burned the house of General Neville the principal collector. At last the President called out 15,000 militia, who under the command of General Lee marched against the insurgents. The rioters, overawed, laid down their arms. The political results of the Whiskey Rebellion were to strengthen Federalism by increasing popular sympathy with the Administration, and to aid in causing the downfall of Democratic clubs, which were modelled on the French Jacobin clubs, and were thought by many to have been the instigators of the insurrection.

> What rests there yet of Continental sway?
> A ruined people ripe to disobey.
>
> —*Revolutionary Ballad.*

1884

FRIDAY

July 25

The Chesapeake Outrage, 1807.—One of the most important events which led to the war of 1812 was the "*Chesapeake* Outrage," a flagrant abuse of England's so-called *right to search* American vessels. In the summer of 1807, three colored seamen, Americans by birth, two of whom had been pressed into British service from an American vessel in the Bay of Biscay, enlisted on board the United States Frigate *Chesapeake*, which was bound for the Mediterranean. While off Hampton Roads she was hailed by a British ship, the *Leopard*, whose commander shortly demanded the three men, and their surrender being refused, discharged a murderous fire upon the *Chesapeake*, which was quite unprepared for an attack. Three of his crew having been killed and eighteen wounded, Commodore Barrons was at last compelled to give up the men. When the *Chesapeake* returned to Norfolk harbor bearing its dead and dying, the most intense indignation everywhere prevailed. "This country," wrote Jefferson, "has never been in such a state of excitement since the battle of Lexington." The English government disavowed the act **seventy-seven years ago to-day**, but soon renewed her hostile course.

1884

SATURDAY

July 26

The Federalist Papers, 1787–1788.—The Federalists Papers were a series of articles written by Hamilton, Madison, and Jay, over the joint signature of *Publius*, explaining and defending the Constitution, with the special purpose of securing for it the acceptance of the State of New York. Of its eighty-five numbers, Jay wrote five, Madison twenty-nine, and Hamilton fifty-one. Hamilton began the work by saying that a wrong decision would not only be "the dismemberment of the Union," but "the general misfortune of mankind"; and closed with the words: "A nation without a national government is an awful spectacle. The establishment of a Constitution in time of profound peace, by the voluntary consent of a whole people, is a prodigy, to the completion of which I look forward with trembling anxiety." The Federalist Papers defended especially the Federal system against the States-right party, and "form a work of enduring interest, because they are the earliest commentary on the new experiment of mankind in establishing a Republican government for a country of boundless dimensions" (Bancroft). Owing to their influence New York ratified the Constitution, July 25, 1788.

1884

SUNDAY

July 27

Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.—The history of the Episcopal Church in America, before the Revolutionary War, is that of the Church of England, whose followers first came to this country in 1607 with the colony at Jamestown. Virginia was almost entirely Episcopalian in its form of religion, and its early clergymen were supported by an annual appropriation of 1,500 pounds of tobacco, sixteen barrels of flour, and a portion of glebe land. The Church of England was established in Maryland by law in 1692, and also early flourished in Carolina and Georgia. Trinity Church, New York City, was founded in 1696, and Christ's Church Philadelphia, the year previous. In New England Episcopacy was excluded for sixty years after the landing of the Pilgrims. At the close of the Revolution, the church had of course become very small, and a general convention was called together, which finally established the *Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States.* The first American bishop was Bishop Seabury, consecrated about 1785 in Scotland. The English Book of Common Prayer was adopted by slight alterations for use in the United States. In 1880 the church numbered sixty-one bishops, and *322,713 communicants.*

1884

MONDAY

July 28

Burlingame Treaty with China, 1868.—One of the most notable events of Johnson's administration was the arrival of an embassy from China, the first ever sent by that empire to any foreign power. Its head was the Honorable Anson Burlingame, an American citizen who had so won the confidence of the emperor as to be given this important mission. The chief result of the visit was a treaty signed **July 28, 1868** between China and the United States, which guaranteed security of life, liberty, and property to the people of either nation while in the territory of the other. In 1879 a bill to check further emigration from China, and thus set aside the treaty, passed both houses of Congress, but was vetoed by President Hayes. Three years later, however, another bill was signed by President Arthur, which for ten years forbade any further immigration of the Chinese to this country. When in June, 1881, after nine months, the law was enforced, there were 266,071 Chinamen in the United States. The following rhyme gives some of the reasons for their unpopularity.

"He kin pick up a libin' wharebber he goes,
By makin' de railroad and washin' ole clo'es ;
He kin lib' 'bout as cheap as a leather-wing bat,
For he *watches de rat market* keen as a cat ;
An' dar 's gwine to be racket wuf waitin' to see,
When de workin'-man butts 'gin de yaller Chinee."

1884
TUESDAY
July 29

American Manufactures.—The first article manufactured in America is said to have been salt, made by the colonists in Jamestown in 1620. The first sawmill was introduced into New York in 1633, more than a century before it came into use in England. The same year the first brewery in the country was established in New York, by Van Twiller. The first cloth was manufactured at Rowley, Massachusetts, in 1644. Ropes were made in Boston as early as 1631. The first permanent iron manufactory in the colonies was at Lynn, in 1662. Hat-making was encouraged in 1661, by a premium of ten pounds of tobacco for every hat made in the province. Shoes were first made about 1635 in Lynn, wall paper in 765, and plows about 1793. Samuel Hain established ie first successful cotton factory in Rhode Island in 1789, id in 1812 Francis Lowell set up the first complete cotn mill in the world at Waltham, Massachusetts. From ese humble beginnings the cotton manufacture has wn to employ 100,000 people, in 1,074 factories. The t silk mill was built in 1810, and in 1880 nearly ,000,000 worth of silk were manufactured in the ted States. Such are the beginnings of American ufactures, which now employ nearly three million per-, with a capital of nearly two billion dollars, and an al production of over five billions.

"And *what was once a* world of savage strife
Teems with the richest gifts of social life."

1884

/EDNESDAY

July 30

der of Jane McCrea, 1777.—Among the many episodes of Indian warfare in the Revolution, eated more universal horror and sympathy than tal murder of Jane McCrea, a beautiful girl of three, who lived with her brother near Fort l, New York, and was engaged to Lieutenant of the British army. On the approach of Bur- army, her lover sent two Indians to escort Miss to the British camp. **Toward the end of 1777,** they had nearly executed their commis- hen they fell into a quarrel about the reward d on her safe arrival, and when only a half mile ort Edward, one of them plunged his tomahawk r temples. Lieutenant Jones was overcome with nd leaving the army lived for more than fifty years from society, " a heart-broken man observing each sary of the day that proved fatal to his happiness."

The mossy marbles rest
On the lips that he has pressed
In their bloom ;
And the name he loved to hear
Has been carved for many a year
On the tomb.

—O. W. Holmes.

1884

THURSDAY

July 31

Northmen in America.—The first white visitors in America of whom we have any trustworthy record were Northmen from Iceland, who discovered the mainland of North America long before Columbus or the Cabots. As early as A.D. 800, Norwegians settled in Iceland, and in 985 discovered Greenland, and planted a colony on its shore. In the year 1000, as we read in the *Norse Saga*, *Leif*, a bold Greenland chief, with thirty-five companions visited the shores of the American continent, and in the spring carried home news of the discovery of a beautiful land so filled with grapes that they called it *Good Vineland*. Frequent parties came afterward, and at least one little Northman named Snovri was born on these shores, probably the first white child on the American continent. For a few years the people of Iceland heard no more news from their countrymen in America, and all traces of them have disappeared, though it is thought that little Island was probably the *Vineland* of the Norse-

Greenland's bold sons, by instinct, sallied forth
On barks, like icebergs drifting from the north,
Crossed without magnet undiscovered seas,
And, all surrendering to the stream and breeze,
Touched on the line of that twin-bodied land
That stretches forth to either pole a hand.

—J. MONTGOMERY.

1884

FRIDAY

August 1

·ado Admitted, 1876.—Colorado takes its name
e Colorado river, meaning *Red Water*, and is
ıgest State in the Union. It was explored by the
anish gold-hunters in the sixteenth century, but
ment was made until within the last thirty years.
·theastern part of the State was bought by the
States in the Louisiana purchase of 1803, and the
er was ceded by Mexico in 1848. About 1806,
ike explored the region and gave his name to its
nountain peak. In 1820, Colonel Long, and in
aptain Fremont, "the path-finder," still further
l Colorado. The discovery of gold in 1858, near
ent city of Denver, started a flood of immigration,
as continued almost unabated ever since. Towns
up with extraordinary rapidity, and within a
enver, Golden City, and others, were started.
o was organized as a territory in 1861, and admit-
State on **August 1, 1876.**

West there lies a desert land, where the mountains
ıgh perpetual snow, their lofty and luminous summits.
om their jagged, deep ravines, where the gorge, like a
eway,
assage rude to the wheels of the emigrant's wagon.

—LONGFELLOW.

1884

SATURDAY

August 2

Black Hawk's War, 1832.—During President Jackson's first administration, the Sac and Fox Indians of Illinois, under their leader, Black Hawk, gave the government so much trouble as to cause a war. Their lands had been bought by the United States a quarter of a century before, but the Indians still continued to live upon them, and when the march of civilization brought settlers to their borders, they refused to withdraw, and held out so successfully against the troops of the government of Illinois, that at last General Scott was sent against them with nine companies of artillery. His troops being overtaken by cholera in Chicago, he could not reach the scene of action, but General Atkinson, in several decisive battles, the last of which occurred **August 2, 1832,** defeated the Indians, and took Black Hawk captive. After spending some years in the East, the Indian chief saw the futility of resistance to so powerful a nation, and was allowed to retire to Iowa, where he died in 1838.

For it was cruel, Black Hawk, thus to flutter
The dove-cotes of the peaceful pioneers,
To let thy tribe commit such fierce and utter
Slaughter among the folks of the frontiers.

—E. SANFORD.

1884

SUNDAY

August 3

nerican Missionary Association, 1845.—This iation was formed in 1845, principally for missionary among the slaves. Several other societies joined it extending its field to West Africa, the West Indies, Iawaiian Islands, etc. It is now principally in the s of the Congregational churches, and is doing a work among the Negroes, Indians, and Chinese of Inited States. About one-seventh of our population de-up of the 6,580,793 negroes, the 246,417 Indians, he 125,000 Chinese in this country, and the Christian ition of such a large part of our numbers is a most ıy object of labor. The association has at the ı, among the colored people, 57 educational institu- with 241 teachers and 9,608 pupils; 83 churches . membership of 5,641. Among the Chinese of Cal- a it has established 15 schools and now teaches Chinamen. Little work has yet been done among ndians except at Hampton and Carlisle.

"Land! great and rich, and free,
Now and forever be
Immanuel's land;
Tribes of the earth oppressed
Come and with us be blessed,
Our fathers here found rest,
The Pilgrim band."

1884

MONDAY

August 4

The Presidential Cabinet.—In the United States ·overnment the Cabinet consists of seven members :—the :cretaries of state, treasury, war, navy, and interior, the :torney-general, and the postmaster-general. The Presi- ent presides at their meetings, which are not public nor :corded. These heads of departments are appointed ıd removed by the President, but must be confirmed by ıe Senate, and receive $8,000 as their annual salary. 'he present Secretary of State is F. F. Frelinghuysen, hose charge is the foreign relations of the government; ıe Secretary of the Treasury is C. T. Folger, who has ıarge of the national finances, including the customs :venue; the Secretary of War, who has charge of the .rmy, is R. T. Lincoln, and the Secretary of the Navy, /. E. Chandler; the Secretary of the Interior, who has ıarge of Indian affairs, public lands, pensions, the atent Office, and the Bureau of Education, is H. M. 'eller; the Attorney-General, B. H. Brewster, conducts ıe legal business of the government; and the Postmaster- ·eneral, W. Q. Gresham, has charge of the post-office. 'ith the exception of the navy department, created in 798, and that of the interior, in 1849, all these offices ·iginated with the national government in 1789.

Let all Officers in Civil Trust
Always Espouse their Country's Interest;
Let Law and Right be precious in their Eyes,
And hear the Poor Man's Cause whene'er he Cries.

—ROGER WOLCOTT (1725).

1884

TUESDAY

August 5

Atlantic Cable Laid, 1858.—In the summer of 1856 enterprising company, headed by Mr. Cyrus W. Field, posed to connect Europe and America by a submarine graph. After several unsuccessful attempts, a gutta-cha cable, enclosing a wire was laid from Trinity Bay, wfoundland, to Valentia Bay, in Ireland, on the **5th August, 1858.** The event was celebrated by great re-cings throughout the country; but on account of ac-ents and failures in this first cable, a permanent At-tic telegraph was not established until 1866.

'T is done; the angry sea consents—
  The nations stand no more apart;
With claspéd hands, the continents
  Feel throbbings of each other's hearts.

Speed, speed the cable: let it run
  A loving girdle 'round the earth,
Till all the nations 'neath the sun
  Shall be as brothers at one hearth.

As brothers, pledging hand in hand,
  One freedom for the world abroad,
One commerce over every land,
  One language, and one God.

—T. B. READ.

1884

WEDNESDAY

August 6

British Campaigns of 1777 and the Battle of Oriskany.—Two great movements were planned by the British for the Revolutionary campaign of 1777. General Howe was to take Philadelphia, and Burgoyne, descending from Canada and taking the posts along the Hudson, was to meet General Clinton and cut off New England from the other States. The first plan succeeded, Washington being defeated at the Brandywine Sept. 11th, and Philadelphia being entered on the 26th. In the north, also, the British at first carried the day, Ticonderoga and Fort Edward surrendering at once to Burgoyne's advancing army. Early in August a band of British, Tories, and Indians entered the valley of the Mohawk, and on the 6th, while advancing to meet them, General Herkimer was defeated and slain in an ambuscade at Oriskany. Soon after these defeats, success at last came to the American arms.

As men who fight for home, and child, and wife,—
As men oblivious of life,—
  In holy martyrdom,
The yeomen of the valley fought that day,
Throughout the fierce and deadly fray,—
  Blood-red Oriskany.

—C. D. Helmer.

1884

THURSDAY

August 7

nti-Renters in New York, 1844–1846.—The anti-
excitement in New York State forty years ago, pre-
:d many scenes similar to those now occurring in Ire-
. In the early history of the State, enormous tracts
nd were granted to the "Patroons," which they let
:n perpetual lease on the payment of a slight ground-
, generally paid in grain, skins, or cattle. When the
om had existed for many years, the tenants began to
:ired of this irksome feudal requirement, and when,
it 1840, the land of the three or four counties around
any had become very valuable, the tenants in those
:icts began openly to refuse the payment of their rent,
aroused a wide-spread agitation on the subject. In
, the anti-renters, disguised as Indians, committed
y outrages on their fellow-tenants who paid rent,
on **August 7, 1845,** the disturbance culminated in
murder of Steel, a deputy sheriff. Martial law
then proclaimed, and the insurrection at last sup-
sed by a military force sent by the governor. In 1846
cultural leases with a reserved rent or service of any
l were restricted to a term of not more than 12 years.

1884

FRIDAY

August 8

ragut at Mobile Bay, 1864.—Among the most t naval actions on record was the fight in Mobile hich resulted in the capture of one of the most ant defences of the city of Mobile just **twenty ago to-day.** In this engagement, which hap- August 5th, Admiral Farragut boldly forced his rough sunken torpedoes and a terrible fire from ·ts and batteries on shore, the Confederate fleet, pecially the ironclad ram *Tennessee*, and after a sion of severe conflicts, during which he gave his while lashed fast to the main-top of his ship, the *ord*, he compelled the surrender of the forts, and uring Mobile Bay to the nation ended blockade- g in the Gulf of Mexico.

From the main-top, bold and brief,
Came the word of our grand old chief—
"Go on!" 't was all he said—
And ever, with steady con,
The ship forged slowly by—
And ever the crew fought on,
And their cheers rang loud and high.

—From the *Bay Fight* by BROWNELL.

1884

SATURDAY

August 9

ɔmithsonian Institute, 1846.—In 1829 an English-n named James Smithson died in Genoa, and, though had never been in America, left his whole fortune of .1,000 to the United States Government to found at shington an institution "for the increase and diffusion knowledge among men." The bequest created great :rest, and many different plans were discussed con-ning the best method of attaining the testator's object. : eminent scientist, Joseph Henry, who was the :ctor of the institute from its establishment in 1846 il his death in 1878, drew up a scheme for its organi-on which was cordially adopted by its governing .rd of regents. Its aim is, first, to *increase* human ıwledge by publications of the results of original :arch in all branches of physical science (thus stimu-ng men of talent by aiding them in publishing to the 'ld an account of their discoveries), and by annual orts to Congress of its operations. It aims, secondly, *diffuse* knowledge by a vast system of international hange of scientific and literary publications, which r embraces 2,200 foreign societies in its correspond-:e, besides many individuals. The Smithsonian Insti-: has contributed *greatly* to the advance of science in United States.

1884

SUNDAY

August 10

ɔw the Puritans kept Sunday.—In colonial attendance at church was enforced by law, not only ew England but in other colonies as well. Only the necessary domestic work was done in the early ing of the "Sabbath" (as the Puritans called Sun- and about nine o'clock the people were summoned e "meeting-house" by the beating of a drum or the ding of a horn. The little log-built church, with a g fence of stakes around it, was always at first ıded by a sentinel during the service, and nearly ' man in the congregation came well armed against ks from the Indians. Men and women sat on rent sides of the church, and the boys were kept in r in a separate place by a "tithing-man," who carried nd with which to keep people awake ; for though an -glass was always on the pulpit the sermons were ı very much longer than an hour. The only music congregational singing from the "Bay Psalm-Book," h for many years was sung to only ten tunes.

So once in fear of Indian beating,
Our grandsires bore their guns to meeting,
Each man equipped on Sunday morn,
With *psalm-book*, shot, and powder-horn.

—JOHN TRUMBULL

1884

MONDAY

August 11

Cuba and the "Tripartite Treaty," 1850.—During President Taylor's administration, a party of adventurous spirits in the United States, wishing to annex Cuba, and believing that its inhabitants were only waiting for a chance to throw off the Spanish yoke, prepared to make an armed descent upon the island. In a proclamation issued **August 11, 1849,** President Taylor warned all citizens to refrain from violating the laws of neutrality by any such enterprise, but his advice was disregarded, and, in 1850 and 1851, two separate expeditions—one of 600 men and the other of 480—were secretly organized and conducted by Gen. Lopez to Cuba. Both were defeated, and Lopez himself executed at Havana. France and England, fearing that the United States would add Cuba to their dominions, endeavored to induce them to join in a "Tripartite Treaty," by which each party should promise never to seize the island. Edward Everett, then Secretary of State, rejected the proposal on the grounds of the Monroe doctrine, declaring that, while the United States had no intention of violating her faith with Spain, no European power had the right to interfere in purely American questions.

The purple hills of Cuba!
Isle of undying verdure,
With sky of purest azure!

—SARGENT.

1884

TUESDAY

August 12

ɪcellaneous Facts about the Presidents.—
rst five Presidents of the United States ended their
of office in the sixty-sixth year of their age.
ɡinia and Ohio have been successively called the
ıer of Presidents," Virginia having sent five, and
hree. New York and Tennessee also claim three;
chusetts and Illinois, two; and Pennsylvania, New
shire, and Louisiana, each one.
ee Presidents died on the 4th of July, and two on
ne day and year. As to their religious denomina-
he Episcopal church claims Washington, Madison,
ɔe, Harrison, Tyler, Taylor, Buchanan, and Arthur;
Unitarians claim Jefferson, John Adams, John
y Adams, and Fillmore; the Presbyterians Jack-
ᵓolk, Lincoln, and Hayes; the Dutch Reformed
ıren; Pierce was a Trinitarian Congregationalist;
ɔn and Grant, Methodists; and Garfield belonged
Church of the Christian Disciples.
ıere is no American boy, however poor and hum-
at, if he have a clear head, a true heart, a strong
ıay not rise through all the grades of society, and
e the crown, the glory, the pillar of the State."—
ELD.

1884

VEDNESDAY

August 13

Turner's Insurrection.—It was the theory of to deny that the negro was really a man; but it is remarkable how seldom in their bondage of ırs the slaves attempted to redress the wrongs, yet ɛnness with which they were felt, was several times in frantic attempts for vengeance like that of Nat 's, in 1831. In Southampton, Virginia, in Au- f that year, he planned, with six other negroes, to the slaves and kill all the whites. Beginning with 's own master, in forty-eight hours forty-five white were killed, with no loss to the insurgents, who ɛn increased to sixty. Two days later the insur- was suppressed and the offenders hunted down nged. The panic created among the white popu- by the event lasted for many months, and caused : debate, in the Virginia legislature, on the evils ɛry. Though the danger was forgotten for a time, 's ill-planned and desperate attempt was significant rning of the greater convulsion which, sooner or ould shake the land.

"We pray de Lord: he gib us signs
Dat *some day* we be free;
De norf wind tell it to de pines,
De wild-duck to de sea."

1884

THURSDAY

August 14

)regon Settled, 1832.—The name Oregon, meaning ild rice," a profuse product of the Pacific Coast, origi- ly applied to all the western part of the United States sessions north of the Spanish province of California. coast was first discovered by a Greek navigator in 2, but was not claimed till visited by Spaniards in o. Spain, however, ceded her rights to England in o. Captain Gray, of Boston, first explored its great :r in 1790, and named it after his vessel the *Columbia.* sident Jefferson sent out the Lewis and Clarke explor- expedition in 1804–6, and their original surveys gave United States its title to the territory. John Jacob or established a fur-trading station in 1811. A few lers came in 1832, and a missionary colony arrived two rs later, but the gold discoveries in California first ned direct immigration in 1849. A dispute as to its)er boundary was settled in 1846, and it was organized a territory **August 14, 1848,** Washington Territory ing been formed from its lands. Oregon became a te in *1859.*

1884

FRIDAY

August 15

ritories of the United States.—The United now comprise thirty-eight States and eleven ter-, including Indian Territory and the District .mbia, which have no territorial government, and . With those two exceptions each territory has a ıor and Judiciary appointed by the President, and islature subject to Congressional supervision. ʳ when a territory has a population which entitles . representative in Congress, it is empowered by ss to adopt a State constitution, and is thereupon :d to the Union. After the District of Columbia .ed in 1790 for the seat of government, and Indian ry organized in 1834, the next two oldest terri-.ʳe New Mexico, with its capital at Santa Fé, the oldest city in the United States, and Utah, with ake City as its capital, both organized in 1850. ·as formed Washington Territory in 1853, with its at Olympia; then Dakota (meaning *The League*) , Yankton its capital city. In 1863, two territories ·rganized, Arizona, Prescott for its capital, and with its capital at Boisé City. Montana (Helena ital city) was organized in 1868, and Wyoming l, Cheyenne) four years later. The total area of ven territories is a million and a half miles.

Westward the course of empire takes its way.

—Bishop Berkeley.

1884

SATURDAY

August 16

attle of Bennington, 1777.—The first checks ch Burgoyne sustained in his victorious descent from ada, in the summer of 1777, were Arnold's defeat of Leger in August, and Stark's gallant victory at Ben- gton, **107 years ago to-day.** Burgoyne having sent onel Baum with a large force to capture the military es at Bennington, General Stark and Colonel Seth ner, with a brave band of New Hampshire militia and "Green Mountain Boys," defended them so vigor- y that the British were repulsed with much greater than the Americans. When leading the troops to the ck, General Stark shouted, "See, men! there are the coats; before night they're ours or Molly Stark's a ow!" Another anecdote of the battle is that of an man, who was told that one of his five sons who were ting on the field had been unfortunate. "Has he ved a coward or traitor?" he cried. "No," replied informer, "he died while fighting bravely." "Then," onded the patriot, "I am satisfied."

"'For we must beat them, boys, ere set of sun,
Or Molly Stark's a widow!'—It was done."

1884

SUNDAY

August 17

The Dutch Reformed Church in America, 1628.—The Dutch Reformed Church was first organized in this country in 1628, by Dutch settlers in New York, who claim the honor of establishing the first Protestant church organization, the first day school, and the first theological seminary on this continent. In the summer of 1628, the Rev. Jonas Michaelius arrived, and organized a church in what is now the lower part of New York City, and which at first numbered fifty communicants. This is now the Collegiate Reformed Church. Five years later the Collegiate Church parochial school (now in its two hundred and fifty-first year) was founded by a Dutch schoolmaster named Roelandsen. At the English conquest of New Amsterdam, in 1664, there were seven Reformed churches in the country, and during the next fifty years, marked by struggles with the English governors, the number increased to sixty. Between 1755 and 1771 there was a bitter strife between the progressive and the conservative members of the Church, which resulted in the formation of the present system of church government in 1792. Although the first English preaching occurred in 1764, the Dutch language was almost universal till after the war of 1776, and is still used in many of the Western churches. In 1880 there were five hundred and ten churches, and 80,208 communicants.

1884

MONDAY

August 18

lkes' Exploring Expedition, 1838–1842.—On ıst 18, 1838, the United States Government sent out : corps of scientific men in six vessels, under the : of Lieutenant Charles Wilkes of the Navy, on an ing expedition in the cause of science. The fleet ısent four years, during which many important dis- es were made. In the Pacific the Samoan group ands was surveyed, and many others previously wn were visited. The Antarctic continent was ered by Lieutenant Eld, one of the company, in though on the same day a part of the same coast was y a French explorer. Having coasted along this rn country for 1,700 miles, and having explored ejee Islands, the expedition returned in 1842, after ge of 90,000 miles. Among the curiosities which rought home were a large collection of live plants Pacific islands, and many prepared specimens of and animals, now in the Smithsonian Institute. For ıportant services, Lieutenant Wilkes was made a ander, and in 1845 published an account of the ex- on.

Whenever bright Phœbus awakens the gales,
I see the bold Yankees expanding their sails;
No climate, for them, is too cold or too warm,
They reef the broad canvas and fight with the storm.

—FRENEAU.

1884

TUESDAY

August 19

reign Aid in the Revolution.—The American
;le for independence brought over many generous
/mpathetic Europeans, whose noble services should
: forgotten. Among them were Lafayette, whose
is almost as dear to us as Washington's; Steuben,
:ran Prussian officer of Frederick the Great, who, as
:tor-general, did great service; Kosciusko, the Polish
one of the noblest characters in history, who died
)4 while fighting for Poland; the Chevalier Armand;
ki, a Polish nobleman who was killed at the assault
vannah in 1779; and Baron De Kalb, who died 104
s ago to-day on the battle-field of Camden.

Steuben, mature in years, from Prussia's plains,
The peerless Frederick's art of war explains.
Fayette's light corps its well-earned fame supports,
And Armand's legion rash adventures courts.
With Poland's sufferings rankling in his mind,
Our levied forces Kosciusko joined.
While strong Pulaski's troops for battle rage,
Intrepid swordsman! bravest of the brave!

—HUMPHREYS.

1884

WEDNESDAY

August 20

Ashburton Treaty, 1842.—The Treaty of Wash-
gton, more popularly called the "Ashburton Treaty,"
as a famous compact between England and the United
ates, concluded **forty-two years ago to-day,** by
ord Ashburton, who came to America for the purpose,
id Daniel Webster, then Secretary of State. Its most
portant result was the settlement of the northeast
undary between Maine and Canada—a question which
id for more than a century menaced the peace of the
o nations. By the articles of the treaty, seven twelfths
the disputed ground were given to the United States,
id only five twelfths to England, who, however, pre-
rred the military frontier given by that division. Other
ticles of the treaty prohibited the African slave-trade,
id provided for the mutual extradition of suspected
iminals. The treaty met with so much opposition in
ngland that it was called the "Ashburton Capitulation,"
id was also much censured in the United States, as con-
ding too much to England, but "it was probably as
ood a settlement as *could then* have been made."

1884

THURSDAY

August 21

Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1803–1882.—Emerson, most celebrated of American philosophers, was born Boston, in May, 1803. Graduating at Harvard in :1, he preached as a Unitarian minister till his change :eligious opinions led him to resign. In 1832 he went Europe, and on one of the last days of **August** in t year began a life-long friendship with Carlyle, whose :ks he had been one of the first to appreciate. On his ırn in 1833, he lectured extensively in Boston, and ı years later took up his residence in Concord, where led a quiet, retired, meditative life until his death in ;2, sought out by admirers and friends, and the centre a school of philosophy of which his home in Concord ; the Mecca. His first book, an essay on "Nature," ›eared in 1836, and the "transcendental" movement eived from that and his early works both impulse and ection. His literary productions comprise lectures, ays, and poetry, and are distinguished by keen and ›tle insight, a lofty idealism, and profound thought.

There comes Emerson first, whose rich words, every one,
Are like gold nails in temples to hang trophies on.
* * * * * * His is, we may say,
A Greek head on right Yankee shoulders, whose range
Has Olympus for one pole, for t' other the Exchange.

—LOWELL'S *Fable for Critics*.

1884

FRIDAY

August 22

Shays' Rebellion, 1786-87.—The close of the Revo-
.ionary War found the American Government in an em-
rrassing condition. It had a debt of forty millions of
llars, and yet Congress had only power to *recommend*
the several States to raise money to pay it. The paper
rrency had so decreased in value that $100 was neces-
ry to buy a pair of shoes. The large number of dis-
arged soldiers were destitute, and for the most part un-
id. The taxes which were finally laid by some of the
ates met with such opposition, that in Massachusetts, at
it, a rebellion broke out, under the leadership of Shays.
inety-eight years ago to-day, a great conven-
n of discontented citizens met at Hatfield, and com-
enced an agitation which resulted in the gathering of
00 soldiers, who, under Shays, engaged in several
tous actions, endeavored to obtain possession of the
senal at Springfield, and were finally routed by General
ncoln, in 1787. The rebellion was thus suppressed,
t it showed the necessity of a stronger and more
icient union than the Confederation.

> Huzza, my Jo Bunkers! no taxes we 'll pay;
> Here 's a pardon for Wheeler, Shays, Parsons, and Day.
>
> —*A Political song of 1786.*

1884

SATURDAY

August 23

ew Haven Settled, 1638.—John Davenport, the der of the New Haven Colony, was a noted Puritan ster of London, who, on account of his religious ions, was obliged to flee to Holland. After living e four years, he came to America, and, with a London chant, Theophilus Eaton, and a company of emigrants, blished a settlement in 1638 at New Haven, or, as the ans called it, *Quinnipiack.* They bought nearly the le of New Haven County from the Indians in two hases: one for a dozen each of coats, hoes, hatchets, ns, and porringers, two dozen knives, and four cases rench knives and scissors; and the other for thirteen s. The early inhabitants of New Haven were men naracter and piety, who paid great attention to edu- on and religion. Under a spreading oak they first ered with Davenport, their pastor, and resolved, after y of fasting and prayer, to be governed by the Bible . On the **23d of August** of the next year, the ven pillars of the church" whom they had elected, or- zed a government for the colony, which made the e its statute-book and church-members its citizens. 665 it united with Hartford to become the Connecti- Colony.

1884

SUNDAY

August 24

hitefield and the Wesleys in America.—In ear 1735, Oglethorpe persuaded John Wesley, the ler of Methodism, to accompany his colony to Georgia s their preacher as well as a missionary to the In- . "Our end in leaving our native country," said he his brother Charles who accompanied him, "is not in riches and honor, but singly this—to live wholly riches of God." But they failed in an effort to luce a new church discipline into the colonies, and o years returned to England. George Whitefield over in 1738 and became more closely identified America, visiting all the provinces from Florida to la, and at last, on his seventh visit to the country, at Newbury, Mass. Under the fervor and earnest- of his preaching multitudes of colonists were con- l.

So by the Merrimack Whitefield stands,
In the temple that never was made by hands.

WHITTIER.

Our Fanes have also felt his soul;
  Our forest-temples grand and dim,
Filled with ecstatic worshippers,
  Have trembled to his hymn:
Still seemed they bowed with praise and prayer—
The *soul of Wesley lingers* there!

—W. R. WALLACE.

1884

MONDAY

August 25

'he City of Washington Burned, 1814.—The ted States Capitol was burned by the British **70 rs ago to-day,** during the second year of the war England. After a victorious battle, six miles from hington, the British troops under General Ross car- terror to the capital. Its 10,000 inhabitants, includ- President Madison and his Cabinet, hastily retired, by early morning of **August 25th,** the entire city in flames. The unfinished Capitol, with the library ongress, was destroyed, and also the President's house, Treasury, and all government buildings but the nt Office, involving with other losses a total destruc- of about $2,000,000 of property. Of this shocking lalism which made this excursion memorable and in- ous, the British were afterward heartily ashamed. ugh the occupation of the United States Capitol had ral significance which impressed Europe, "whatever xecutive headquarters for the time being, this great blic of hearts *still* stood firmly."

1884

TUESDAY

August 26

ston Settled, 1630.—The first white man who on the present site of Boston was Wm. Blackstone, ıglish clergyman, who about 1625 located himself :acon Hill, near a spot which the Indians called nut. Four years, later on **Aug. 26, 1629,** twelve ;hmen, among whom was John Winthrop, agreed to ate to America, and in the spring of 1630 a part of the / entered Boston harbor. Settled first at Charles- Winthrop's party soon removed to Boston, which ıt first called Trimountain, from the three emi- ; on Beacon Hill, but which was named Boston ıt., 1630, from the town of Boston, in Lincolnshire, :uption of St. Botolph's Town,) from which many colonists had come.

.iberty first found a tongue beneath New England's sky,
:re her earliest martyrs stood, and nerved themselves to die.
ıg upon these ancient hills, by glory's light enshrined,
.e the dwellings of the free, the city of the mind.

—H. T. TUCKERMAN.

Around the green, in morning light,
The spired and palaced summits blaze ;
And, sunlit, from her Beacon-height
The dome-crowned city spreads her rays.

—O. W. HOLMES.

So long as Boston shall Boston be,
And her bay-tides rise and fall,
Shall Freedom stand in the Old South Church,
And *plead for the* rights of all '

—WHITTIER.

1884

VEDNESDAY

August 27

:tle of Long Island, 1776.—To the Americans
Revolutionary War one of the darkest days was
7th of August, 1776, on which the Battle of
Island was fought. The chief events of that year's
.ign had been the evacuation of Boston by the
ı, their unsuccessful attack on Charleston, S. C.,
.e Declaration of Independence. About the middle
y, Lord Howe, with a powerful British fleet, arrived
e of New York harbor, where his brother and
:linton, with their forces, soon increased the num-
: the enemy to 24,000. The Howes sent letters
g of peace to "George Washington, Esq.," and as
:fused to recognize his official position the nego-
s were fruitless. On the 27th of Aug., Washing-
orces engaged with the British troops near Brook-
nd though the Americans fought with great
y, they were forced to fly after having lost in killed
tured nearly 1,000 men. This defeat greatly dis-
ed the Americans, and resulted in forcing Washing-
evacuate New York City, which was entered by the
on the 13th of September.

Ever by losses the right must gain,
And every good have its birth of pain.

—WHITTIER.

1884

THURSDAY

August 28

'he Oldest City in 'the U. S., 1565.—On St. ;ustine's day, **Aug. 28, 1565,** Melendez, a Spanish igator, who had sailed from Spain to exterminate all French Protestants in America, arrived with 1,500 ɔwers off the coast of Florida. The town which he ıded ten days later received the name of the Saint on ɔse day he had entered the harbor, and is, by more ı forty years, the oldest town in the U. S. Many ses yet standing in it are said to have been built long ɔre Virginia was colonized. Its early history was a ɔdy struggle for its possession by Indians, English, . French, but in 1763 it passed out of Spanish hands, l now two thirds of its inhabitants only are ınıards.

In the realm of flowers, a perfumed land,
Girt by the sea, by soft winds fanned,
Ravaged by war in years grown old,
Its former glory a tale long told,—
The scene of many a hard-fought fight,
Of many a siege, when Spanish might
Was o'er the land; in its decay
It hath a beauty to live alway,
That quaint old Spanish city.

—ANON.

1884

FRIDAY

August 29

liver Wendell Holmes, 1809.—Dr. Holmes was **seventy-five years ago to-day** in the old "gam-roofed" house in Cambridge, to which he frequently .es in his works. His earliest verses were written for *Collegian*, a paper conducted by students in Harvard, e he graduated in 1829. On leaving college he ed law for a time, but soon devoted himself to the cal profession, in which he has attained great distinc-

In 1847 he was made Professor of Anatomy and iology in Harvard. His contributions to medical .ce have gained him great fame, as well as his best : work, the "Autocrat of the Breakfast-Table," his hological romance, "Elsie Venner," his numerous ributions to the *Atlantic Monthly*, of which he was the der, his inimitable "One-Horse Shay," and many r humorous and serious poems.

> There 's Holmes, who is matchless among you for wit:
> A Leyden-jar always full-charged, from which flit
> The electrical tingles of hit after hit.
>
> —LOWELL'S *Fable for Critics.*

> You may change the initials and say if you can
> H. O. W. it is, by what magical plan
> He edges with wisdom the blade of his wit,
> Gives his neatly-cut satire its delicate fit,
> Fuses humor with pathos, a mixture so fine,
> Heads *are cleared, and hearts* touched as by subtlest of wine."

1884

SATURDAY

August 30

Summer Campaign of 1778.—The principal events of the Revolutionary campaign of 1778 were the evacuation of Philadelphia by the British, the arrival of the French fleet, the Battle of Monmouth, and an attempt to expel the British from Rhode Island. The attack on the New England coast was made by the French and American forces, but a great storm preventing a naval engagement, the Americans were compelled to retreat from the island, **Augnst 30, 1778.** The Battle of Monmouth, in June, was a hard-fought engagement between Washington and General Clinton, which was nearly lost to the Americans through the failure of General Lee. An incident of the battle was the bravery of a gunner's wife named Molly Pitcher, who, when her husband was shot down, supplied his place at the cannon, and received a sergeant's commission for her heroic conduct.

Proudly floats the starry banner,
  Monmouth's glorious field is won,
And in triumph, Irish Molly
  Stands beside her smoking gun.

—WILLIAM COLLINS.

1884

SUNDAY

August 31

ngregationalism in the United States, 1629.— irst Congregational Church in this country was gath- at Salem, Mass., **255 years ago this month.** Its ents then called themselves *Independents*, a sect ı originated in England at the end of the sixteenth ry, of those opposed to the method of church gov- ent in the English Church. John Robinson is re- d as the principal founder of the system, and, with ck, sought refuge in Holland from the persecutions Established Church. He died before he could join ty of his followers, who had sailed to Massachusetts 20. From that time until the end of the last century, lose bonds which the colonists established in New ınd between Church and State were not broken. within thirty years, Congregationalism was mainly ıed to New England, but has since been largely ex- d in the Western, and, to some extent, in the other s. In 1880 it numbered 3,620 churches, with a mem- ip of 382,920.

Laws, freedom, truth, and faith in God
Came with those exiles o'er the waves;
And where their pilgrim feet have trod,
The *God they trusted* guards their graves.

—LEONARD BACON.

1884

MONDAY

September 1

:gicides in New England, 1665–1680.—During Philip's war, the inhabitants of the pretty village of ey, Mass., were surprised by a band of Indians at church on a Sunday morning, just **209 years to-day**. While they faltered irresolute without a r, suddenly there appeared in their midst a vener- nan with a long white beard, who rallied the terror- .en villagers until they defeated the Indians, and disappeared as suddenly as he came. This mys- ıs person was William Goffe—(*Bancroft*)—who had a general in Cromwell's army, and had been obliged ee from England with Whalley and Dixwell as ides, for having sentenced Charles I to death. The judges lived for years in hiding-places among the ts and caves of Connecticut. On the New Haven ı Dixwell lies buried, and on West Rock, near the city, may be seen a cave which is said to have been pied by the regicides, and bears the inscription: position to tyrants is obedience to God."

There is no other land like thee,
Thou art the shelter of the free;
The home, the port of Liberty.

—PERCIVAL.

1884

TUESDAY

September 2

First Steam-boat in the United States, 1807.—Though various experiments in steam navigation were made in the last century, Robert Fulton, a native of Pennsylvania, was the first who successfully built a steam-boat on the present plan. While on a visit to England he learned what was then known about the powers of steam, and on his return to America built, with the aid of Mr. Livingstone, the steamer *Clermont*, 100 feet long, 12 wide, and 7 deep. Every one laughed at his undertaking, and called the vessel *Fulton's Folly*, but when on the 2d of September, 1807, it made its first trip from New York to Albany at the rate of five miles an hour, the popular applause and excitement were unbounded. The wheels and engine made so much noise that the sailors in their boats on the river hid themselves and prayed for protection against the horrible monster. The trip, which had previously taken more than a week, was now made in thirty-six hours.

"With clashing wheel, and lifting keel,
And smoking torch on high;
With foam before, and fire behind,
She thunders rushing by!"

1884

WEDNESDAY

September 3

Treaty of Peace at Paris, 1783.—Though the Revolution practically ended with the surrender of Cornwallis in 1781, the British held several American towns for nearly two years longer. Finally at Paris articles of peace were arranged between the two countries by Franklin, Jay, Adams and Laurens for America, and Fitzherbert and Oswald for England, and the ratification of this treaty on **September 3, 1783,** at last closed the war. It had lasted seven years, had cost Great Britain a hundred million pounds and fifty thousand lives, besides the loss of the colonies, and was characterized by Pitt as "conceived in injustice, nurtured in folly, and whose footsteps were marked with slaughter and devastation." The Americans also had suffered intensely, but were at last more than repaid by the acquisition of liberty and a place among the nations of the earth.

Seven years long was the bow
Of battle bent, and the heightening
Storm-heaps convulsed with the throe
Of their uncontainable lightning.

—LOWELL.

1884

THURSDAY

September 4

Marion in South Carolina.—With the British captures of Savannah in 1778, and Charleston in 1780, the South was left for a time in the hands of the enemy, and only defended by the bravery of Marion and Sumter, with a few spirited and devoted followers. Marion was called the *Swamp Fox*, and many of his exploits in the tangled morasses of the South, "with his motley bands of determined, ragged, and half-armed exiles, were among the most thrilling episodes of the war." Knowing all the paths thro' the woods, and shrinking from no hardships, they often surprised and captured British forces much more numerous than their own. One of these adventures occurred **104 years ago to-day,** when Marion with fifty-three men put two hundred British to flight. He was as generous as he was brave, and his name should be ranked high among the Revolutionary heroes.

Our band is few, but true and tried,
  Our leader frank and bold;
The British soldier trembles,
  When Marion's name is told.
—*Song of Marion's Men*, by BRYANT.

1884

FRIDAY

September 5

'irst Continental Congress, 1774.—The first Con-
ıtal Congress met at Philadelphia, on **Sept. 5, 1774,**
:ek a closer union between the colonies, and to ob-
from England a redress of American wrongs. The
. of a meeting had been proposed by Massachusetts,
was warmly approved by the other colonies, of whom
en sent delegates to Philadelphia. There were fifty-
e delegates at the meeting, including Patrick Henry,
ms, Richard Henry Lee, and Washington. Peyton
dolph was chosen president, and Charles Thompson,
'ennsylvania, secretary. They determined that each
ny should be entitled to one vote only, and that co-
al distinctions should be effaced in the effort for a
er union. "I am not a Virginian, but an American,"
Patrick Henry. Of this Congress, Pitt, the British
ıister, said: "For solidity of reasoning, force of sa-
.ty, and wisdom of conclusion under such complica-
of circumstances, no nation or body of men can
ıd in preference to the General Congress at Phila-
ɔhia."

Upon our grand Congress may Heaven bestow
Both wisdom and skill our good to pursue;
On Heaven alone dependent we 'll be,
But from all earthly tyrants we mean to be free.
—*Old Revolutionary* Ballad.

1884

SATURDAY

September 6

Lafayette's Birthday, 1757–1834.—Every patriotic ıerican should thrill with gratitude at the name of fayette, whose noble and disinterested efforts in behalf American liberty are almost without parallel in history. the age of nineteen, the heart of the young marquis s fired by the story of American wrongs and struggles · freedom, and fitting out a ship at his own expense, in te of the greatest opposition, he arrived in America d offered himself as a volunteer to serve without pay. on enlisting the firm friendship of Washington, he was ıde a major-general, and through many battles of the :volution displayed great courage and high military tal- t. Owing to his efforts, a French fleet and other valu- le aid were obtained, and for his distinguished services gained the lasting gratitude and affection of the nerican people. After the Revolution he led an active d noble career in France, and on his last visit to nerica, in 1824, he was enthusiastically received, and esented by Congress with $200,000 and a grant of land.

"Ay, Guest of the Nation ! each roof is thine own,
Through all the broad continent's star-bannered zone."

1884

SUNDAY

September 7

First Prayer in Congress, 1774.—When the first Continental Congress met at Philadelphia, **110 years ago** this week, Caleb Cushing of Mass. moved that Congress should be opened the next day by prayer. Jay and Rutledge objected on account of the great diversity of religious sentiments, but Samuel Adams arose and said: "I can hear a prayer from a man of piety and virtue, who is at the same time a friend to his country." Accordingly, Duché, an Episcopal clergyman, was chosen for the service. On the following morning came a report of a bloody attack on Boston by the British troops. Muffled bells tolled as Congress came together again, and when the psalm for the day was read (the 35th), a thrill went through the assembly, for it seemed "as if God's own finger had pointed out to them the appropriate language of supplication." The clergyman closed his Prayer-book and broke forth into an extemporaneous prayer for Congress, for Massachusetts, and especially for the devoted town of Boston, "in words so earnest and in such thrilling and pathetic tones, that every heart was stirred and every eye was wet." Congress has ever since been opened by prayer.

1884

MONDAY

September 8

Battle of Eutaw Springs, 1781.—The principal events of the campaign of 1781, which practically ended the Revolutionary War, were the battle of Cowpens in South Carolina, where under Gen. Morgan the Americans gained what is sometimes called the "most extraordinary victory of the war"; the ravages which Arnold the traitor committed in Virginia; Cornwallis' unsuccessful pursuit of the American troops in North Carolina; and his final expulsion from North Carolina by Greene at the battle of Guilford Court-House in March. Finally, on **Sept. 8, 1781,** at the battle of Eutaw Springs, S. C., Greene gained an advantage which resulted in driving the British from S. C., and though three posts still remained in the enemy's hands, practically closed the struggle in the South.

At Eutaw Springs the valiant died;
  Their limbs with dust are covered o'er—
Weep on, ye springs, your tearful tide,
  How many heroes are no more!

—FRENEAU.

1884

TUESDAY

September 9

ı Federal Constitution Resolved upon, 1786.— ɛ articles of Confederation which were signed by the of the thirteen States in 1781, worked well during the ɾolution, but with peace came the necessity for a ınger union, to regulate the trade and commerce of the ntry, to enable Congress to relieve the great debts in- red during the war, and to unite the colonies in a ıer union as a nation. Washington said: "We are one ɹon to-day, and thirteen to-morrow; who will treat ı us on these terms?" Early in the year 1786, Vir- a proposed a convention to revise the Federal system, **near the middle of Sept., 1787,** a convention met ınnapolis for this purpose. The number of delegates being sufficient, another convention was appointed May, 1787, at Philadelphia. "Never was a more im- tant work committed to human hands; for the first ɛ in the world's history, four millions of people were, their representatives, to choose a government for nselves."

But know, ye favored race, one potent head
Must rule your States, and strike your foes with dread,
The finance regulate, the trade control,
Live through the empire and accord the whole.

—L. Hopkins.

1884

WEDNESDAY

September 10

Battle of Lake Erie, 1813.—The battle which was ght **seventy-one years ago to-day** virtually ended War of 1812, and was the first occasion on which a le British squadron surrendered to an enemy. In year 1813, Captain Perry was sent to dispute with the ish their control of the great lakes. With a few ships structed from the timber of the Erie forests, he aged in a severe battle with the British fleet on the **h of September.** His own ship, the *Lawrence*, ıg shattered in the fight, Perry seized its flag, which e Lawrence's last words, "Don't give up the ship," springing into a boat was rowed in the open sea, exed to a deadly fire, to another ship. After winning a ıplete victory he returned to the sinking *Lawrence*, received on her deck the surrender of the fleet.

Oh, who can tell what deeds were done,
  When Britain's cross, on yonder wave,
Sunk 'neath Columbia's dazzling sun,
  And met in Erie's flood its grave?
Who tell the triumphs of that day,
  When, smiling at the cannon's roar,
Our hero, mid the bloody fray,
  Conquered on Erie's echoing shore?

—J. G. PERCIVAL.

1884

THURSDAY

September 11

nerican Inventions.—America has become dis-
ished above all other nations by the importance and
ɔer of her inventions. The steam-boat, the cotton-
he practical application of the telegraph, the sewing-
ine, Lowell's complete cotton-mill, and many others,
ue to American inventors as well as the more recent
ıtion of the telephone and the perfection of the elec-
ght. American agricultural implements are used in
ı Africa, Australia, and Japan; American fire-
es and palace cars in Europe; American steam-
ply on the Rhine, the Danube, and the Bos-
ıs; and London newspapers are printed on Hoe's
ican type-revolving presses. Another important
ıtion is that of vulcanized india-rubber by Charles
year in 1839. To American inventions of labor-
g machinery, America is largely indebted for her
nt wealth and prosperity.

Tempestuous with thought,
Of daring wing-beat and of mighty sweep,
Is this Promethean age!

—H. H. Boyesen.

1884

FRIDAY

September 12

The Making of the Constitution, 1787.—In the ıvention which met in Philadelphia in 1787 were two 'ties—one, which wished a strong central government h control over the separate States, and another which ɜnuously objected to any thing which weakened State :hority. Besides the difficulty of reconciling these two ws, was the still greater one of giving due weight to : small States without sacrificing the large ones. Only trong sense of the needs of the nation could have led :h party to sacrifice some of their wishes and agree ɔn a compromise, which was finally adopted. Though ımilton principally called the convention together, ıdison was, above all, the author of the Constitution. : and Randolph submitted the Virginia plan, which h some changes was at last accepted. It was a Federal ıeme and disposed of the difficulty about the great and all States by giving to each an equal number of ıators and proportioning the number of Representatives the population. After a long discussion on slavery, ee fifths of the slaves were counted as population. ıile allowing the States local sovereignty, it committed the Federal Government all matters which concerned nation as a whole.

1884
SATURDAY
September 13

uebec Taken, 1759.—The great event of the last ıch and Indian war was the famous expedition against bec, then one of the strongest fortresses in the world. eral Wolfe was sent from England to command the ck, and, with 8,000 men, beseiged for two months the cessible heights occupied by the French. He at last overed a steep path leading to the plains above the , and, on the night before the **13th of September, 9,** went with his men by water to the foot of the ht, repeating to his sailors, as they rowed him, Gray's egy in a Country Church-yard." Having climbed the p, and formed in perfect order, the British troops ented at day-break an unwelcome sight to the aston- d eyes of the French commander, Montcalm. Dur- the battle which followed, and which was gained by British, both Wolfe and Montcalm fell mortally nded, Wolfe exclaiming that now he died happy, and ıtcalm declaring that he wished to live no longer, since bec must surrender. A monument to the memory of ı generals now adorns Quebec. The city was entered ıe English a few days later. Other British successes :o the treaty of 1763, by which France gave to Eng- , Canada and all lands east of the Mississippi, except w fishing posts in Newfoundland. Thus French rule merica came to an end.

> " Long as Quebec shall rear aloft her head,
> So long, O Wolfe, *thy* memory shall bloom,
> *And deathless laurels* flourish on thy tomb."

1884

SUNDAY

September 14

'he Star-Spangled Banner, 1813.— After the ;h had burned Washington, in August, 1813, they :d to their ships, and on September 12th and 13th ked Baltimore. **Seventy-one years ago to-day,** ıe morning after the bombardment of Fort McHenry, ›oem was written by Francis S. Key, then a prisoner .e British fleet.

! say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
/hat so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming ;
ose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming ?
l the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
e proof through the night that our flag was still there ;
h ! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave ?

* * * * * * *

! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
etween their loved homes and the war's desolation ;
ısed with victory and peace, may the Heaven-rescued land
raise the power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
n conquer we must, for our cause it is just,
l this be our motto : " In God is our trust " ;
nd the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
'er the *land of the free* and the home of the brave.

—F. S. Key

1884

MONDAY

September 15

:ooper's Birthday, 1789-1851.—One of the most ginal and national of American authors was James nimore Cooper, whose nautical and Indian romances t made American literature widely known in Europe. : was born **September 15, 1789,** spent three years at le (1802–1805), passed six years in the United States vy, as midshipman, married in 1811, and with the ex- ›tion of a visit to Europe, spent most of the rest of his : in his beautiful homestead on Otsego Lake, N. Y. :re he wrote his first work, "Precaution," and in 1822 ›lished "The Spy," a tale which was the first successful vel by an American author, and which, from its fresh l powerful descriptions of Indian life, attracted iversal attention. It was soon translated into most ropean languages, and can now be read even in Persian. ›m that time until his death, Cooper wrote many other nances of frontier and maritime life, and also a naval tory of the United States. "America counts on the .nty roll of her men of letters the name of no one who :ed from purer patriotism or loftier principle. She ds among them all no manlier nature and no more heroic ıl."—(T. R. LOUNSBURY.)

O haunted lake, guard well thy story—
  Guard well the memory of that honored name!
Guard well the grave that gives thee all thy glory,
  And raises *thee to long*-enduring fame.

—*To Otsego Lake.* (ANON.)

1884

TUESDAY

September 16

Lee's Invasion of Maryland, 1862.—In the autumn f 1862, the Confederates made an attempt to capture the ity of Washington, in the expectation that Maryland 'ould then join their cause, and insure final victory. ccordingly, Lee crossed the Potomac, but found that he 'as disappointed in his hopes of support from the Maryinders. Though he needed all his troops to repel McClellan's more numerous forces, who were in pursuit, Lee espatched "Stonewall Jackson" to Harper's Ferry, 'hich soon fell into the hands of the Confederacy, but ackson had soon to return to the assistance of Lee, who 'as hard pressed by McClellan near Shacksburg. There, n the beautiful valley of the Antietam, was fought one f the most terrific battles of the war. Fighting began **Sept. 16, 1862,** but the real battle took place the next ay. When night came 25,000 men lay dead or wounded n the field, and, though the Federals had gained the reater advantage, neither side could claim the victory. McClellan was greatly blamed for allowing Lee to retreat nto Virginia, and was soon superseded in the command f the army. The result of the battle was to hasten the remonitory Proclamation of Emancipation, which ocurred five days afterward.

1884

WEDNESDAY

September 17

'he Constitution Adopted, 1787.—Among the ı who framed our Constitution in 1787 were Washing- who presided over the convention ; Franklin, then e than eighty years of age ; Morris, Jefferson, Jay, lison, and Alexander Hamilton. The convention re- ned in session with closed doors for over three ıths, but at last, after many earnest discussions, the stitution was adopted on the **17th of September,** 7, and celebrated by great rejoicings over a large part he country. The Articles of Confederation had made he colonies independent States, and the Constitution ed them into a single nation. It was at last ratified ıll the States, North Carolina and Rhode Island being last to accept it, in 1789 and 1790. The Constitution he United States was pronounced by Gladstone to be e most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time he brain and purpose of man." "Its wheels move as othly to-day as at any time since the inauguration of first President."

" Ye sires of nations, called in high debate,
From *kindred realms*, to save the sinking State.

1884

THURSDAY

September 18

The Fugitive-Slave Law, 1850.—During Fillmore's administration, **on the 18th of September, 1850,** a law was made, which directed and encouraged the surrender of runaway slaves in any part of the free States, without any trial by jury; and all citizens were commanded to help in making arrests. The bill created intense excitement, and was regarded as inhuman by many in the North. Sumner, Mann, Phillips, and other anti-slavery orators denounced it indignantly, but it was supported by Daniel Webster and other leading Northern statesmen. Many harrowing scenes were the result. In Ohio, a fugitive slave named Margaret Garner killed two of her own children to prevent their being carried into slavery. In Boston, a fugitive by the name of Shadrach was rescued from the government officers, and in an attempt to rescue another, named Anthony Burns, one man was killed and troops were ordered out. The disgust and horror were so great, that in several States "Personal Liberty Laws" were framed, to restrict the operations of the Fugitive-Slave Law. The Whig Party, which was defeated in the next presidential election, was said to have died "of an attempt to swallow the Fugitive-Slave Law." The law was at last abolished in 1864.

1884

FRIDAY

September 19

Garfield's Death, 1881.—Just eighty days from the :al 2d of July, and six months after his inauguration, esident Garfield died at Elberon, N. J., on the anniversary of the battle of Chickamauga, where he had so avely faced death eighteen years before.

With finger on lip and breath oated,
  With an eager and sad desire,
The world stood hushed, as it waited
  For the click of the fatal wire.
"*Better*": and civilization
  Breathed freer and hoped again;
"*Worse*": and through every nation
  Went throbbing a thrill of pain.
A cry at midnight! and listening—
  "Dead!" tolled out the bells of despair;
And millions of eyelids were glistening
  As sobbed the sad tones on the air.

—M. J. SAVAGE.

Ah, could the grief of all who mourn
  Blend in one voice its better cry,
The wail to heaven's high arches borne
  Would echo through the caverned sky!
Farewell! the leaf-strewn earth enfolds
  Our stay, our pride, our hopes, our fears;
And autumn's golden sun beholds
  A nation bowed, a world in tears.

—O. W. HOLMES.

1884

SATURDAY

September 20

Chickamauga and Mission Ridge, 1863.—In the autumn of 1863 the National Government endeavored to secure the western frontier of the Confederacy, and thus prepare the way for an invasion of the South by capturing the region of Chattanooga in Eastern Tennessee. A great battle took place at the Chickamauga River, nine miles away, on the **19th and 20th of September,** which resulted in the defeat of the Northern army under Gen. Rosecrans, but which was saved from utter rout by the bravery of Gen. Thomas, who "like a lion at bay repulsed the terrible assaults of the enemy." In this battle also, Garfield so distinguished himself that he was made a major-general for gallant and meritorious service. The next month, Lookout Mountain was brilliantly carried by Hooker's men who fought much of the time above the clouds, and the next day Grant and Sherman forced Bragg from the heights of Mission Ridge, and thus the Confederates were driven from Tennessee.

"On wooded Mission Ridge increase
The fruited fields of fall,
And Chattanooga sleeps in peace
Beneath her mountain wall.
O Country, free from sea to sea,
With Union blest for ever,
Not vainly heroes died for thee
By Chickamauga River!"

SUNDAY

September 21

Jonathan Edwards' Resolutions.—The following are seven of seventy resolutions which had great influence in forming the character of President Edwards.

1. *Resolved*, to live with all my might, while I do live.

2. *Resolved*, never to lose one moment of time, but improve it in the most profitable way I possibly can.

3. *Resolved*, never to speak evil of any person, except some particular good call for it.

4. *Resolved*, never to do any thing which I should despise or think meanly of in another.

5. *Resolved*, never to do any thing out of revenge.

6. *Resolved*, never to suffer the least motion of anger to irrational beings.

7. *Resolved*, never to do any thing which I should be afraid to do if it were the last hour of my life.

1884

MONDAY

September 22

Arnold's Treason, 1780.—The summer of 1780 was marked by the most disgraceful event of the Revolution —the treason of Benedict Arnold, the "traitor to his country." Arnold was a daring American officer, born in Connecticut, who during the first years of the war greatly distinguished himself by his bravery at Quebec and Saratoga. But his honesty was not equal to his valor, for becoming discontented with the commissions given him by Washington, and having been reprimanded by a court-martial for dishonesty, he finally opened negotiations with the British General Clinton, to surrender West Point (then the most important post in the country) into the hands of the British. He was in return to receive from them a brigadier-generalship and £6,315. This disgraceful bargain was arranged by Arnold and Major André, Clinton's representative, at Haverstraw on the Hudson on **the 22d of September, 1780.** As André was returning to the British lines, he was seized and the plot discovered. He was afterward hung as a spy, while Arnold escaped to be despised alike by Americans and British.

> Now Arnold to New York has gone, a-fighting for the king,
> And left poor Major André, on the gallows for to swing.
>
> —*Revolutionary Ballad.*

1884

TUESDAY

September 23

Capture of the "Serapis," 1779.—In the autumn of 1779, occurred one of the most daring and terrible actions ever recorded in naval history. Captain Paul Jones, who had already distinguished himself by taking sixteen prizes in six weeks on his ship, the *Bon Homme Richard*, encountered, on **the 23d of September,** the British frigate *Serapis*, off the coast of Scotland. During the fight which followed, Jones brought his vessel close up to the *Serapis*, and lashed them together with his own hands that the British might gain no advantage from their larger guns. For three hours a desperate fire continued incessantly from both sides. The ships took fire again and again, and at last the *Bon Homme Richard* sank just as the *Serapis* surrendered, and Jones hastily transferred his crew to her decks, having lost in killed and wounded all but 75 of his 300 men. For this gallant victory, he was presented by Louis XVI with a gold-mounted sword, and was greatly honored by the French Government. On his return to America Congress voted him a gold medal for his "zeal, prudence, and intrepidity."

> 'T was Jones, brave Jones, to battle led
> As bold a crew as ever bled
> Upon the sky-surrounded main.—FRENEAU.

1884

WEDNESDAY

September 24

Chief-Justice Marshall, 1755–1835.—John Marshall
' Virginia is called the great Chief Justice of the United
:ates. "It was he who established the power of the
ıpreme Court as we recognize it to-day; who, more than
ıy other man of his time, carried forward the work of
ıe Constitution in welding the loose league of States
to a compact, powerful nationality, and who smothered,
ır nearly half a century, the dangerous doctrine of State
ıvereignty." Marshall was born **September 24, 1755,**
ıught bravely in the Revolutionary War, and afterward
ı a tall, gaunt, awkward lawyer amused but astonished
is audiences in Richmond. Wirt said he had an almost
ıpernatural faculty for detecting the *point* of a contro-
:rsy and developing a subject by a single glance of his
.ind. Soon entering public life, he was sent as Envoy
ı France in 1797, was elected Congressman in 1799, in
300 became Secretary of State under John Adams, and
ıe next year was appointed Chief-Justice, which position
: occupied till his death in 1835. From 1804 to 1807
: published the first extended *Life of Washington* which
ıd then appeared. His judicial decisions sustaining
ıe power of the Federal Government over that of the
:parate States, etc., are of the highest authority, and
ıve ever since governed the actions of the Supreme
ourt.

1884

THURSDAY

September 25

Ethan Allen, 1739–1789.—Ethan Allen, the "Green Mountain Lion," was one of the early Revolutionary heroes. Born in Connecticut in 1739, and removing to Vermont when twenty-four years of age, he soon became Colonel of the "Green Mountain Boys," an organization formed to resist settlers from New York who disputed with New Hampshire a right to the land. Having succeeded in driving out the New Yorkers, a reward of £150 was offered by the N. Y. Governor for his arrest. His next exploit was the capture of Ticonderoga from the British in the first year of the Revolution. With Seth Warner and his "Green Mountain Boys," he surprised the captain of the fortress, and "in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress," demanded its surrender. Shortly after this gallant deed, which wrested all the northern region from England, Allen was captured in an unsuccessful attack on Montreal on **Sept. 25, 1775.** He was sent to England and kept a prisoner till 1778. Till his death in 1789 he was actively engaged in border struggles with Canada, and also wrote several books of atheistical character.

"Down from the wild Green Mountains
Our fearless eagle swooped;
Down on Ticonderoga
Bold Ethan Allen slooped."

1884

FRIDAY

September 26

A **Revolutionary Hymn.**—The song which, one ndred years ago, held the place of "My Country 't is of ee," and our other national hymns, was the one added ow; the music of which was composed by William lings, who was born in 1746 and died **Sept. 26, 1800.** gave up the trade of tanner to teach psalm-singing, l was the earliest American composer who published own music. He was a zealous patriot, and his songs re sung in the tent by the soldier as well as in the rch. Of this particular hymn, it is said that it was g in every family and by every child, in the house and the way, and did more to inspire the spirit of freedom n any one thing that occurred in those critical times. ough the verses are not of great poetical beauty, they r repeating as showing the spirit of the times.

"Let tyrants shake their iron rod,
And slavery clank her galling chains,
We 'll fear them not, we 'll trust in God,
New England's God forever reigns.

"The foe comes on with haughty stride,
Our troops advance with martial noise,
Their veterans flee before our arms,
And *generals yield* to beardless boys."

1884

SATURDAY

September 27

Samuel Adams, 1722–1802.—"The men who pointed out the pathway to freedom by the light of religion as well as of law, were the foremost promoters of American independence. And of these Adams was unquestionably chief."—(*Garfield.*) He was born in Boston **Sept. 27, 1722,** and early showed his attachment to the liberties of the American people by his graduating thesis at Harvard in 1743, in which he took the affirmative side of the question: "Whether it be lawful to resist the supreme magistrate, if the Commonwealth cannot otherwise be preserved." He was from the first a zealous defender of popular rights, and did as much as any one man in bringing about the Declaration of Independence. His determination and unflinching patriotism gained him the hatred of the British and many high offices from his countrymen. It was said of him: "He drinks little, eats temperately, thinks much, and is indefatigable in the pursuit of his objects." He signed the Declaration, helped frame the Massachusetts Constitution, was Governor of the State, and died in Boston in 1802.

"Brave forefathers! we thank you;
Though your times were rough and rude.
From their rugged husk of evil
Comes *the kernel* of our good."

1884

SUNDAY

September 28

American Board of Foreign Missions.—This great association, which has been the means of converting thousands of heathen all over the world, originated in a mother's prayers. When Samuel Mills was yet a young boy his mother consecrated him "to the service of God as a missionary." The words sank into his heart, and when he became a student of Williams College, he withdrew to a field one summer afternoon of 1807, and there, with two of his companions resolved to do all they could to establish a society for the conversion of pagan nations. Three years later they and four others at Andover Seminary petitioned the Congregational ministers at Bradford to begin the work, and offered themselves as missionaries. Accordingly, in 1810, the "American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions" was established. The first missionaries sent out were Newell, Judson, Hall, Nott, and Rice, who went to India in 1812. Five years later, missionary work in the Sandwich Islands began, in 1820 in Turkey, in 1830 in China, in 1833 in Africa, and in 1869 in Japan.

> "From day to day, before our eyes,
> Grows and extends the work begun,
> When shall the new creation rise
> O'er every land beneath the sun?"

1884

MONDAY

September 29

Balboa Discovers the Pacific, 1513.—Vasco Nunez e Balboa was a Spaniard who in 1510 joined an expedi- on to the Spanish possessions on the Isthmus of Panama, nd in consequence of an insurrection which occurred oon after his arrival, became commander of the colony. Iearing from the natives of a large western ocean, six ays' journey to the south, he set out with 190 men in uest of it. After a twenty-five days' march of incredible ardships, their Indian guides announced that from the ext mountain top the ocean could be seen. Balboa eached the summit alone, and on the **29th of Sept.** btained the first sight of the Pacific. Descending to the hore he took possession in the name of King Ferdinand. The name "Pacific" was given by Magellan, a Portu- uese navigator, eight years afterward.

The Sunset Sea ! the noblest and the broadest
  Of all the oceans girdling wave-washed earth ;
The calmest, the gentlest, yet at times the maddest,
  In raving paroxysms of stormy birth.
And now I know how that discoverer Spanish,
  Balboa, his long, toilsome journey made,
One first glimpse caught, in fear the whole might vanish,
  A mirage,—dropped upon his knees and prayed.

—H. Norford.

1884

TUESDAY

September 30

History of the Democratic Party in the U. S.—
ıe name *Democrat* was at first applied in contempt by
e Federalists, to the opposing party which then called
ıelf Republican, afterward Democratic-Republican, and
en finally Democrat. Till about 1828, a Democrat was
ıe who inclined to a French rather than an English
stem of government, and advocated as much simplicity
possible in the administration of public affairs. With
e nomination of Jackson as President in 1825, a party
ıown as "Jackson men" came into power and assumed
e name of the Democratic Party, which then somewhat
ıanged its characteristics with new questions; States'
ights, Free Trade and opposition to a National Bank,
:ing for some years the leading planks in its platform.
'ith the slavery agitation came a division in the party,
ıout 1848, into *Free Soil* Democrats who opposed slavery
. the Territories, and *Democrats* who gradually favored
avery to gain the South. During the war there were
'eace Democrats called "Copperheads," and *War* Demo-
ats who upheld the National Government.

1884

WEDNESDAY

October 1

Nat Bacon's Rebellion, 1675–1676.—Soon after the accession of Charles I to the throne of England, there was great discontent in the Virginia Colony on account of the withdrawal of many of their voting privileges, and also because they were not allowed to protect themselves against unfriendly Indians. The colonial governor, Berkeley, was an avaricious and cruel man whose constant oppressions aroused intense indignation. At last, in 1675, when Berkeley refused to send troops against a large force of hostile Indians, 500 of the enraged colonists took up arms and chose Nathaniel Bacon, an influential and able man, for their leader. Bacon's little army routed the savages while he was being proclaimed a traitor by the governor. Civil war followed, in which Jamestown was burned and only a ruined church remains to mark one of the oldest settlements in America. Bacon soon afterward died, on **Oct. 1, 1676**, and Berkeley was unrelenting in his punishment of the rebels. "The old fool," said Charles II, "has taken away more lives than I for the murder of my father."

> Have you not roused his force to try on,
> That grim old beast, the British lion?
> And know you not that at a sup
> He 's large enough to eat you up?
>
> —TRUMBULL.

1884

THURSDAY

October 2

André Hung, 1780.—Major John André, the British spy, whose sad fate, **104 years ago to-day,** caused universal regret, was a brave and accomplished Englishman, who was born in London in 1751. He was not quite thirty years old when Gen. Clinton selected him to meet Arnold and negotiate for the surrender of West Point to the British. After his seizure by the Americans as he was returning to the British lines from his errand, he was tried by a court-martial of fourteen officers, including Lafayette and Steuben, and was on his own evidence condemned to be shot as a spy. His conduct at the trial was so brave and manly that Washington deeply regretted the necessity for the hard verdict, but the cruel fate of Nathan Hale was fresh in the minds of Americans, and he felt that decided measures must be taken. The day on which André was hung, he drew a portait of himself which is now in the library of Yale College. In 1821 his remains were removed from Tappan, on the Hudson, to Westminster Abbey.

> "But whether in the Abbey's glory laid,
> Or on so fair but fatal Tappan's shore,
> Still at his grave have noble hearts betrayed
> The loving pity and regret they bore."

1884

FRIDAY

October 3

Bancroft's Birthday, 1800.—George Bancroft, the most distinguished of American historians, was born near Worcester, Mass., **eighty-four years ago to-day.** After graduating at Harvard, he spent several years studying in Germany, two of which he was a pupil of Heeren, at Göttingen. After his return to America he published two books (one of verses and the other a translation of a philosophical work of Heeren's), thus showing two marked traits of his mind which later contributed so greatly to the success of his historical writings. He became prominent as a Democratic politician, and in 1845 was made Secretary of the Navy by Polk, in which position he established the Naval School at Annapolis. In 1846 he was sent to England as Ambassador, but during all these occupations he continued his historical researches, and from time to time published the successive volumes of his *History of the United States*, which, for extent of research, philosophic treatment, and beauty of style, stands unrivalled. A new edition of the work, revised and in part re-written by its honored author, is now in course of publication. Mr. Bancroft for many years has resided at Washington.

"A mighty power he wields;
He wakes grim centuries from their repose,
And bids their hoarded treasuries unclose
The spoils of time to yield."

1884

SATURDAY

October 4

Hayes, President, 1877–1881.—Rutherford B. Hayes, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born **sixty-two years ago to-day** in Ohio. Having graduated at the Harvard Law School, he practised law in Cincinnati, served so bravely in the Civil War as to be made brevet major-general, in 1865 was elected Congressman, and three times served as Governor of Ohio. In 1876 he was elected President of the United States. Among his first measures were the withdrawal of national troops from the Southern States in the hope of establishing peace and friendship between them and the North, and an attempt at civil-service reform. In the summer of 1877 occurred the Railway Riots in Pennsylvania, which were suppressed by the government after scenes of great violence. The Chinese question also excited great interest, and an effort was made in 1879 to check all further immigration from China, but the bill was vetoed by the President. The resumption of specie payment in 1879 was an important event of Hayes' administration, which was, on the whole, remarkable as a period of peace and prosperity. The enormous exports of grain to European markets constantly increased, and immigration to our ports was greater than ever before.

1884

SUNDAY

October 5

Jonathan Edwards, 1703–1758. — Jonathan Edwards, the most famous of New England divines, was born at Windsor, Conn., **October 5, 1703.** He studied at Yale, and having been licensed to preach in 1722, occupied the position of tutor there for three years. In 1727 he was ordained over a Northampton church, where he labored with intense zeal for more than twenty-three years, when he was dismissed because he preached that no "unconverted" person should participate in the Lord's Supper. During his pastorate, and owing largely to his preaching, occurred the famous "Revival" of 1740. After leaving Northampton in 1750, Edwards became a missionary among the Indians, and while living at Stockbridge wrote his celebrated treatise on the "Freedom of the Will," a book which high authority says "never has been, and never will be, answered." In 1757 he was chosen President of Princeton College, but died in March, 1758, after filling that office for only two months. Dr. Edwards was a powerful and impressive preacher, a stern Calvinist, earnest, unaffected, and nobly conscientious.

> In the church of the wilderness Edwards wrought,
> Shaping his creed at the forge of thought,
> And with Thor's own hammer welded and bent
> The iron links of his argument. —WHITTIER.

1884
MONDAY
October 6

Education in the Colonies.—The Puritan settlers of New England built school-houses by their churches before they had even provided houses for themselves, and education after religion and social order was the subject nearest to their hearts. Within six years after the settlement of Boston, the colony appropriated £400 for the establishment of a college. In 1642 every township in Massachusetts was required to provide schools for all the children. Hartford in the same year established a school supported by the public treasury, and in 1670 Connecticut laid aside one fourth of her annual revenue for educational purposes. Through all the Indian wars the schools were steadily maintained. A printing-press had been established in 1639, and many books had already been brought from England by the colonists. In addition to Harvard, the colonists also possessed the colleges of William and Mary, which was founded in Virginia in 1692, Yale in 1701, Princeton in 1738, and Columbia in 1746.

Set on her rocks, and on her sands,
And wintry hills, the school-house stands,
And what her rugged soil denies,
The harvest of the mind supplies.
Nor heeds the sceptic's puny hands,
While near her school the church spire stands;
Nor fears the blinded bigot's rule,
While near the church spire stands the school.

—WHITTIER.

1884

TUESDAY

October 7

Edgar Poe, 1809–1849.—Edgar Poe was one of the most gifted but unfortunate writers whom America has ever produced. Born in Boston in 1809, he wrote a manuscript volume of verses at ten years of age, was noted at school for his athletic abilities, was expelled from college, and then from West Point, for his irregularities; enlisted in the army, from which he soon deserted; at twenty-six married his cousin, a beautiful girl of thirteen, who not long after died of a broken heart; contributed to journals, edited several magazines, published various pieces in prose and verse, of which the best known, "The Raven," appeared in 1845; was usually in debt, and died at last of delirium tremens on **October 7, 1849,** in a Baltimore hospital. Whatever may be thought of Poe's sad career, and of his character, he was undoubtedly one of the finest and most original poetic geniuses ever born in this country.

> Then comes Poe, with his raven, like Barnaby Rudge,
> Three fifths of him genius, and two fifths sheer fudge;
> Who has written some things quite the best of their kind,
> But the heart somehow seems all squeezed out by the mind.
>
> —LOWELL'S *Fable for Critics.*

1884

WEDNESDAY

October 8

Pierce, President, 1853–1857. — Franklin Pierce, born in New Hampshire in 1804, was a graduate of Bowdoin College, a lawyer and Congressman, who so distinguished himself in the Mexican War as to receive a brigadier-generalship. In 1852, as a candidate of the Democratic party, he was elected fourteenth President of the United States. His entire administration was one of intense political excitement, and party feeling ran high in all parts of the country. The great cause was the Kansas-Nebraska bill of 1854, which left it open to the settlers of those States whether slavery should exist there or not. A small civil war, which was not suppressed for many months, was occasioned by the rush for the first possession of the land. Besides the Kansas troubles, other important events during Pierce's administration were a great "World's Fair" at the Crystal Palace in New York in 1853, Commodore Perry's Treaty with Japan in 1854, the organization of the "Know-Nothing" Party, the assault upon Chas. Sumner in the United States Senate, the beginning of surveys for a Pacific Railroad, and the Ostend Manifesto, which was an unsuccessful attempt by the United States to buy Cuba of Spain. Pierce strongly advocated States' rights and opposed all anti-slavery movements. He died **October 8, 1869.**

1884

THURSDAY

October 9

Chicago Fire, 1871.—The great fire of Chicago, ich raged for two days and nights, from **October 8 to** , **1871,** laid waste an area of 2,100 acres, which in-.ded nearly all the business portion of the city, and .ny private residences. More than 17,000 buildings re destroyed, over 98,000 persons rendered homeless, d 200 killed. $190,000,000 of property was lost, and .ny insurance companies ruined. $7,000,000 was sent · relief, and in three years Chicago was so rapidly ›uilt that scarcely a trace of the fire could be seen. ch was the energy of this enterprising city, which in :y years had grown from nothing to a population of er half a million, and which had performed the aston-ıing engineering feat of raising itself bodily ten feet ;her.

Men said at vespers: "All is well!"
In one wild night the city fell;
Fell shrines of prayer and marts of gain
Before the fiery hurricane.
A sudden impulse thrilled each wire
That signalled round that seat of fire;
From East, from West, from South, and North
The messages of hope shot forth.
Then lift once more thy towers on high,
And fret with spires the Western sky.

—WHITTIER.

1884

FRIDAY

October 10

United States Naval Academy, 1845.—George Bancroft, the historian, originated the idea of a naval academy for the United States when he was Secretary of the Navy under Polk. He established the present institution at Annapolis, Maryland, which was opened on **October 10, 1845.** It embraces a course of four years' study and two years' service on board a training ship. Ten cadets are appointed by the President, and the remainder by the Secretary of the Navy on nomination from members of the House of Representatives. The annual expenses are supplied by a grant from Congress. The number of students in 1880 was 355, including 256 cadet midshipmen and 99 cadet engineers. The average annual number of graduates is 41, and the total number since 1851 has been 1149. During the Civil War the academy was located at Newport, R. I. May the Navy of the United States at no distant time fulfil Timothy Dwight's prophecy, which was written in 1794:

> "Thy fleets to all regions thy power shall display,
> The nations admire and the ocean obey."

1884

SATURDAY

October 11

)iscovery of America, 1492.—Before the voyages :olumbus, and while the world was still thought to be . a Florentine poet, Pulci, prophesied that

> "Men shall descry another hemisphere
> Since to one common centre all things tend,
> So earth, by curious mystery divine,
> Well balanced hangs amid the starry spheres."

'his remarkable prediction was fulfilled **392 years** ɔ **to-day,** when Christopher Columbus first espied ɪ after an eastward voyage of 70 days from Spain. ɛ next morning he disembarked with his men from his ɛe small vessels, and kneeling on the beach in thanks Heaven, took possession of the country in the name of in, naming the island San Salvador. Supposing that had discovered a part of India, he called the natives *'ians* and their islands the *Indies*, but the New rld which he had discovered was named from Amerigo ;pucci, whose description first made it known to Cen- Europe.

> "And there he knelt upon the strand
> To thank the God of sea and land,
> And there did he possession claim
> In royal Isabella's name."

1884
SUNDAY
October 12

Columbus and the Mayflower.

O little fleet ! that on thy quest divine
  Sailedst from Palos one bright autumn morn,
  Say, has old Ocean's bosom ever born
A freight of faith and hope to match with thine ?
Say, too, has Heaven's high favor given again
  Such consummation of desire as shone
  About Columbus when he rested on
The new-found world and married it to Spain ?

Answer,—thou refuge of the freeman's need,—
  Thou for whose destinies no kings looked out,
  Nor sages to resolve some mighty doubt,—
Thou simple Mayflower of the salt-sea mead :
When thou wert wafted to that distant shore,
  Gay flowers, bright birds, rich odors met thee not ;
  Stern Nature hailed thee to a sterner lot,—
God gave free earth and air, and gave no more.

Thus to men cast in that heroic mold
  Came empire such as Spaniard never knew ;
  Such empire as beseems the just and true,
And at the last, almost unsought, came gold.
But He who rules both calm and stormy days
  Can guard that people's heart, that nation's health
  Safe on the perilous heights of power and wealth ;
As in the straitness of the ancient ways.

—HOUGHTON.

1884

MONDAY

October 13

General Lee, 1807-1870.—Robert Edward Lee was ne of the ablest generals and noblest characters of all ho took part in the Civil War. Born in Virginia in 1807, e graduated second in his class at West Point in 1829; erved in many responsible positions and was appointed hief engineer in the Mexican war, where he won great ame and was made colonel. When the war broke out he esolved not to take part against his State or his family, nd in the second year of the Rebellion was appointed ommander-in-chief of the Confederate forces. He infused ew life into the army, and mainly through his energy the nequal fight was continued for three years. No general as more loved by his soldiers, for he was, personally, of e noblest type of manly beauty, and his great dignity nd lovable character fitted him to be the leader of a bler cause. Being left homeless and penniless at the d of the war, General Lee accepted the presidency of ashington College, in Virginia, where he died in October, 1870.

1884

TUESDAY

October 14

Pennsylvania Settled, 1682.—In the year 1681, .lliam Penn, an English Quaker, who was born **Ocber 14, 1644,** obtained from Charles I a grant of land the New World as an offset of a claim against the govıment for £16,000. The following year he sent over ompany of Quakers, who were the first settlers of Pennvania, or the *woody land of Penn*, as it was called by : king. Penn soon followed them himself, and one of first acts after landing, was the famous treaty which made with the Indians under a great elm-tree at ackamaxon, "the only Indian treaty never sworn to l never broken." His wise government attracted imgrants from all parts of Europe, and obtained for the onies a peace and prosperity scarcely elsewhere to be ınd.

* * * * **Within the Land of Penn**
The sectary yielded to the citizen,
And peaceful dwelt the many-creeded men.
Peace brooded over all. No trumpet stung
The air to madness, and no steeple flung
Alarums down from bells at midnight rung.
The land slept well. The Indian from his face
Washed all his war-paint off, and in the place
Of battle-marches sped the peaceful chase.

—WHITTIER.

1884

WEDNESDAY

October 15

Indian Territory, 1830.—The Indian Territory is now the home of the civilized or partially-civilized remnants of those once powerful tribes who have been removed from time to time by the government from different parts of the country. The territory was set apart by Congress in 1830, principally to provide a refuge for the Creeks of Georgia, who were not permitted to remain on their own lands. There are now twenty reservations in the district, most of which are occupied by separate Indian tribes. The Indians govern themselves through United States agents appointed by the President; and certain missionary associations live among them and supervise their affairs, no other white men being allowed to settle in the district. In 1879, the Indians cultivated 237,000 acres of land, and there are now more than 6,000 Indian children in the 210 schools. Liquor traffc is prohibited, and no other territory contains so many houses of worship, or so many Sunday-schools with so large an attendance.

Then, undisturbed by the roaring wave,
Released from war, and far from deadly foe;
Lies down in endless rest a nation's brave.

—TIMOTHY DWIGHT.

1884

THURSDAY

October 16

Yale College Founded, 1701.—The idea of planting a college in New Haven undoubtedly arose in the mind of John Davenport, the principal founder of the colony, for shortly after the first settlement in 1638, lands were set aside in New Haven for that purpose. In 1660, the old colonial documents speak of a college as having been already begun, but owing to various difficulties, the projected institution became only a preparatory school, which still exists under the name of Hopkins' Grammar School. At last, however, in the year 1700, ten ministers, meeting for this purpose in Branford, gave each a few books for the founding of a college. Thus, being constituted its trustees, they obtained, on **October 16, 1701,** a charter from the Colonial Assembly. Till 1716 the college was situated at Saybrook, as the most central location for the Connecticut Colony, but in that year it was removed to New Haven, where the first college building was called after Elihu Yale, one of its donors, who was born on the site of the college, but lived abroad, and was for some years Governor of the English East India Company. The name was formally adopted for the college in the charter of 1745.

> "Yale College is a jolly home,
> We love it still where'er we roam;
> And till the sun and moon shall pale
> *We'll* love and reverence Mother Yale."

1884

FRIDAY

October 17

Burgoyne's Surrender, 1777.—The great turning-point of the Revolutionary War was Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga, which occurred **107 years ago to-day**. Before that event the American cause seemed doubtful, but after it success was only a matter of time. It inspired the country with renewed courage and hope, and gained for it the French Treaty, which first gave it a national rank in the eyes of Europe. The decisive battles which led to the surrender were the two at Saratoga or Stillwater. The first was fought September 19th, and was claimed by both sides, though the British loss was twice that of the Americans. The second, on October 7th, was so disastrous to the British, that ten days later, **October 17th,** General Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates with his whole army of nearly 8,000 men.

A gallant army formed their last array
Upon that field, in silence and deep gloom,
And at their conqueror's feet
Laid their war weapons down.
Sullen and stern, disarmed but not dishonored:
Brave men, but brave in vain, they yielded there;
The soldier's trial task
Is not alone "to die."

(*The Battle Field at Saratoga.*)—HALLECK.

1884

SATURDAY

October 18

Sheridan's Ride, 1864.—In the summer of the fourth campaign of the Civil War, 20,000 Confederates under General Early dashed down the Shenandoah Valley and threatened Washington. Being twice defeated by national forces, they next attempted to drive Sheridan out of the valley. The Northern soldiers being again victorious, Sheridan marched through the valley, and in order to make it untenable to the enemy, laid it utterly waste, destroying $25,000,000 of property, The Federal army then fell back on Cedar Creek, Va., where on the night of **October 18th** they were attacked by Early and the Confederates, and the next morning were driven back four miles. Sheridan himself was then at Winchester, twenty miles away, but hearing of the disaster, galloped to the field just in time to turn the retreat into victory. The Confederates never again threatened the United States capital.

Hurrah ! hurrah for Sheridan !
Hurrah ! hurrah for horse and man !
" Here is the steed that saved the day,
By carrying Sheridan into the fight,
From Winchester, twenty miles away !"

—T. B. READ.

1884

SUNDAY

October 19

The Surrender of Cornwallis, 1781.—The Revo-
ion practically came to an end **103 years ago to-
y,** when Lord Cornwallis, who had been confined in
rktown, Va., for ten days by the American and French
ops, surrendered with 8,000 men to General Washing-
n and Count Rochambeau. The news was first made
own to the Philadelphians by the watchman's cry,
'ast two o'clock, and Cornwallis is taken!" The joy
the Americans everywhere was unbounded, but to
rd North, in England, the news came "like a cannon-
l in his breast."

Now all is hushed, the gleaming lines
Stand moveless as the neighboring pines,
While through them, sullen, grim, and slow,
The conquered hosts of England go.

—WHITTIER.

A hundred years!
Too long for memory of the justest feud!
Last century's quarrel to its end pursued,
May not we grasp hands,
Now each one stands
Apart from fears?

—W. T. LINTON.

1884

MONDAY

October 20

The Louisiana Purcnase, 1803.—The name **Louisiana,** in the early part of the century, comprised not only the present State, but the whole country from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains, and from British America to Mexico. The Mississippi, which had been discovered by a Spaniard, in 1541, was first entirely explored by La Salle, a Frenchman, who, in 1682, took possession of the vast country west of it and called it Louisiana, after King Louis XIV. The French sold it to Spain in 1762, and Napoleon bought it back forty years later. In 1803 he sold it to the United States for $15,000,000, and the purchase was ratified by the Senate on the **20th of October.** Napoleon prophesied that the people who held that vast Western country, would become the greatest nation on the earth. It was first explored by Lewis and Clarke, in 1804, and the present State of Louisiana organized as a territory in the following year.

Among the deeds economy has wrought,
High rank the num'rous tracts of land we 've bought;
Our country's limits constantly extend
O'er boundless wilds and rivers without end.

—R. Alsop, 1808

1884

TUESDAY

October 21

Dark Days in New England.—The **twenty-first of October, 1716**, was long remembered in New England as the **Dark Day,** from a curious darkness which almost turned the day into night. A similar day occurred forty-six years later, but on the 19th of May, 1780, a third **Dark Day** was still more remarkable. The darkness began between 10 and 11 A.M., and lasted until midnight. It prevailed from New Jersey to Maine, and was greatest in Massachusetts and Southern New Hampshire, where it was impossible to read ordinary print without artificial light. An observer says: "Candles were lighted in the houses; the fowls retired to roost; the cocks were crowing all around as at daybreak; objects could not be distinguished but at a very little distance; and every thing bore the appearance and gloom of night." In the Connecticut Legislature, then in session, a proposition to adjourn on account of the darkness gave rise to the incident referred to below:

Last day?—Adjourn?—No! no!—stern Wadsworth shouted—
  Bring lamps! our duty to the end be done!
So by that council was the thick gloom scouted.
  So, too, when dark times threaten, let each son
  Of sires so brave and true no duty shun,
But to the end work on. Ne'er be his courage doubted.

—C. S. L.

1884

WEDNESDAY

October 22

The Heroes of the Revolution, 1776–1783.—In one page it is difficult to compress even the names of the Revolutionary heroes to whose valor and patriotism we owe our independence. Among the early patriots who helped to bring about the struggle for liberty were Franklin, Samuel Adams, John Hancock, Patrick Henry, and James Otis. Of the American generals of the war, Washington unquestionably takes the highest place. Next ranks Nathaniel Greene, to whom the brilliant Southern campaign of 1780–81 is entirely due. General Gates' name was widely known in connection with the surrender of Burgoyne. Stark was the hero of the battle of Bennington, and "Mad Anthony Wayne" gained his greatest fame at Stony Point. "Old Put."—as Israel Putnam was called, took part in many battles, but was especially famous for his daring ride, at full galop, down the steep rocks at Horseneck. Generals Sumter, Marion, Pickens, Ethan Allen, Lincoln, Lee, McDougal, and Arnold must also not be forgotten; nor, indeed, Lafayette, and our other foreign helpers. The most prominent British generals were Howe, Burgoyne, Clinton, and Cornwallis.

"One hundred men with each a pen,
Or more, upon my word, sir,
It is most true, would be too few,
Their valor to record, sir."

1884

THURSDAY

October 23

Lewis and Clarke's Expedition, 1803–5.—When, 1803, the United States purchased Louisiana, then a ıst territory stretching from the Mississippi to the ıcific, President Jefferson resolved to send out an :ploring expedition to investigate that utterly unknown ›untry. Accordingly, in the spring of 1803, his private cretary, Captain Meriwether Lewis, together with Cap-in William Clarke and a party of thirty-five soldiers ıd hunters, set out from St. Louis. The record of .eir two years and a half of wild adventure is a thrilling ırrative of peril and romance. They ascended the :issouri to its sources, crossed what were then called e *Stony* instead of the *Rocky* Mountains, explored the ɔlumbia River till they reached the Pacific Ocean. fter travelling six thousand miles among savage tribes, ıd having suffered hair-breadth escapes from wild :asts and Indians, with the loss of only one man, they turned to St. Louis in the autumn of 1805. Jefferson rote that "never did a similar event excite more joy roughout the United States."

Rude though our life, it suits our spirit,
  And new-born States in future years
Shall own us founders of a nation,—
  And bless the hardy pioneers. —C. MACKAY.

1884

FRIDAY

October 24

Signal Service of the United States.—The oldest unbroken national series of meteorological observations is that begun in the United States in 1818 by Surgeon-General Wallace, and which continues to the present day. But the impetus which has resulted in placing the United States foremost among nations in meteorological research was given by James P. Espy from 1843 to 1854, who constructed weather maps and studied the laws of storms; and also by Joseph Henry, who established the Smithsonian system of simultaneous weather reports and predictions in 1849. This was succeeded in 1870 by the present remarkably perfect signal service, devised by General Myers, who was often called "Old Probabilities," and who died in 1880. For the benefit of commerce, agriculture, and seamen, it sends reports of the weather, which are based upon tri-daily simultaneous telegrams from one hundred and sixty-six regular stations. Farmers' bulletins, predicting the weather for two days, are sent to six thousand post-offices, and its storm predictions are of incalculable value to ships at sea. In the year ending June 30, 1879, from 79.8 to 93.8 of its predictions were true.

> "Undreamed-of sciences from year to year
> Upon dim shores of unexploréd Night
> Their steady beacons kindle."

SATURDAY

October 25

Noah Webster, 1758–1843.—No one man has done more for the cause of education in the United States than Noah Webster, the sale of whose school-books has reached into the tens of millions. He was born at Hartford in **October, 1758,** and graduated at Yale in 1778. He taught in various schools, wrote papers on the Constitution, edited several magazines, and published writings on many subjects; but he has been best known to posterity by his *Dictionary*, his *Grammar*, and his *Spelling-Book*. In 1807 he began his *American Dictionary of the English Language*, but finding many difficulties in etymology, devoted himself to that study for ten years, consulting books and scholars in Europe in 1824, and at last, in 1828, after 21 years' labor, brought out the first edition of his great work. Of his *Elementary Spelling-Book*, more than seventy million copies had been sold up to 1876. Mr. Webster lived for several years at Amherst, Mass., and in 1821 became one of the founders of Amherst College. The next year he moved to New Haven, where he died in 1843.

Wandering through the Southern countries, teaching
The A B C from Webster's Spelling-Book.

—FITZ-GREENE HALLECK.

1884

SUNDAY

October 26

Methodists in the United States. — The first ociety of Wesleyan Methodists was established in New ork, in 1766, by immigrants from Ireland. Their numbers oon greatly increasing, Wesley sent out to them from Eng- and several preachers, one of whom was Francis Asbury. Jntil the Revolution they considered themselves as part f the Church of England, but the independence of the Jnited States required the formation of a new society. Vesley accordingly ordained Thos. Coke, Bishop of the nfant "Methodist Episcopal Church in the United tates," which was established in 1784. Several impor- ant divisions in the Church have since occurred. In 830 the Methodist Protestant Church was formed f those who disliked the Episcopal forms, and in 1845 he *Southern* Methodist Episcopal Church was organized y those who differed on the slavery question; there ave been also several colored Methodist societies. At he centenary celebration of American Methodism, in **October**, 1866, nearly $9,000,000 was contributed, most f which was spent in missionary enterprises, for which his church has always been unsurpassed by any other lenomination.

1884

MONDAY

October 27

Two Naval Battles of the Civil War.—One of the most daring naval actions of the war occurred **twenty years ago to-day,** when the powerful Confederate ram *Albemarle* was destroyed by a steam launch commanded by Lieutenant Cushing. His boat was sunk by the shock of the explosion, and his life only saved by swimming ashore under a close fire from the enemy.

Another important contest was that between the *Monitor* and the *Merrimack*, in the early part of 1862, which attracted the attention of the whole nation, and, indeed, of the civilized world. The United States frigate *Merrimack*, having been converted by the Confederates into an iron ram, had made havoc of the wooden blockading fleet in Norfolk Harbor, when there appeared a small steam-floating vessel called the *Monitor*, described by the enemy as looking like a cheese-box on a raft. After a severe contest of more than two hours with her diminutive opponent, the *Merrimack* retreated and left the victory with the little *Monitor*. This contest may be said to have caused the general substitution of iron for wooden vessels in the navies of the world.

1884

TUESDAY

October 28

Harvard College, Founded 1636.—On October 1636, the oldest college in the United States was nded by an endowment of £800, from the General urt of the Massachusetts colony, for the establishment 'a schoale or colledge" at Newtown, three miles from ston. The name of the town was then changed to *mbridge*, after the seat of the English university, l the college took the name of **Harvard**, in 1639, m the Rev. John Harvard, who bequeathed to it his ›ks and nearly $4,000. For some time it was little re than an Indian school, and was supported by the untary contributions of the colonists, who often could e no more than a peck of corn yearly. The first sident was the Rev. Henry Dunster, 1640, and the est college building now standing is Massachusetts ll, built in 1720. The university is governed by a poration consisting of the President, Treasurer, and : Fellows, and by a Board of Overseers, thirty in num-, chosen from the alumni of the college.

"Fair Harvard! thy sons to the jubilee throng,
And with blessings surrender thee o'er,
By these festival rites, from the age that is past
To the age that is waiting before."

1884

WEDNESDAY

October 29

Nevada and Nebraska Admitted, 1864–1867.—The thirty-sixth and thirty-seventh States admitted into the Union were Nevada and Nebraska. Nevada was formed from the territory ceded by Mexico in 1847, and was named from the Sierra Nevada or Snowy Mountains. The first settlements were made by Mormons, who found gold in its borders in 1848, and when silver was discovered in 1859 the population rapidly increased, so that it was organized as a territory in 1861, and admitted as a State at the **end of October, 1864.**

Nebraska was formed out of the Louisiana territory ceded to the United States by France, in 1803, and took its name from an old Indian word meaning "Shallow River." In 1854 the famous Kansas-Nebraska bill was passed by Congress amid great political excitement,—it being a direct infringement on the Missouri compromise. It resulted in the establishment of Nebraska as a territory, which then included Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, and a part of Colorado. It was later reduced to its present limits, and became a State in 1867.

> New States, with starry emblems, one by one,
> Come stealing through the Future's twilight dim.
>
> —G. D. Prentice.

1884

THURSDAY

October 30

John Adams, President, 1797–1801.—John Adams, the second President of the United States, was born **149 years ago to-day.** He was one of the foremost of American patriots, and "by his energy and wisdom did more, perhaps, than any other man, to crystallize the American sentiment in favor of independence." He persuaded Congress to adopt the *Declaration*, and was its most distinguished signer. After serving as ambassador to France and England, Congress thanked him for the patriotism, perseverance, integrity, and diligence which he displayed. Being elected President as the head of the Federal party, his term of office was greatly disturbed by conflicts with the Anti-Federalists, whose leader, Thomas Jefferson, occupied the position of Vice-President. Difficulties with France nearly induced a war, but were at last settled by a treaty with Napoleon in 1800. The year previous, Congress had passed an *alien law* which empowered the President to send out of the country, at short notice, any dangerous foreigners, and also a *sedition law*, which limited the freedom of the press to criticise the government. Both of these laws were so unpopular that they were repealed under the next President and prevented Adams' renomination. Other important events during Adams' administration were the removal of the seat of government to Washington, and the deaths of Patrick Henry and Washington.

1884

FRIDAY

October 31

'he Charter Oak, 1687.—About the year 1685, King es, of England, took away the charters of several of New England colonies, and the next year sent out Sir ıund Andros, as royal governor. He came with great ıp and display, and tried in every way to exterminate dom in New England, by restraining the liberties of press, discouraging education, and preventing free . elections. Massachusetts and Rhode Island gave , but Connecticut determined not to submit her char- On the evening of **Oct. 31, 1687,** Andros having .anded the charter of the General Assembly, at Hart-, it was brought into the hall as if about to be surren-:d. At an appointed signal every light was extin-hed, and when they were relit the charter had disap-·ed, having been carried off and hidden in a hollow , which was afterward called the Charter Oak, and stood blown down by a storm in 1856. Andros was so :y that he took the Connecticut Colony Records and te on them the word "finis." At last, in 1688, the olution in England enabled the New Englanders to :hemselves of their tyrannical governor. Connecticut ıght her charter from its hiding-place, and no furthe. mpt was made to put " finis " on the colonial records

Heaven's blessing attending us, no tyrant shall say
That Americans e'er to such monsters gave way.
—*Revolutionary Ballad.*

1884

SATURDAY

November 1

Polk, President, 1845–1849.—James K. Polk, the eleventh President of the United States, was born in North Carolina **November 2, 1795,** but removed early to Tennessee. From 1824 to 1839 he was a member of Congress, where he made himself conspicuous by his opposition to J. Q. Adams' administration, and later by his upport of Jackson. In 1844 he was elected President by the Democratic party against Henry Clay, the Whig candidate. In the early part of his term of office the Oregon boundary was settled by a treaty with Great Britain, but the southwestern border line between Mexico and Texas was not so peaceably arranged, and brought on the Mexican War, which lasted from 1846 to 1848, and was the great event of Polk's administration. Other occurrences were the conquest of California by Fremont and Stockton, the discovery of gold in that country in 1848, and the Wilmot Proviso Bill, which gave rise to a new political party, the *Free Soilers.* Notwithstanding the war, the country was in a prosperous state commercially. The political troubles in Europe and distress in Ireland caused an immense immigration, which contributed to the settlement of the Western States, of which two new ones, Iowa and Wisconsin, were admitted during his administration.

1884

SUNDAY

November 2

American Mission to the Sandwich Islands, 20.—One summer day in the year 1809 a Yale pro-
ısor discovered a youth, crying, on the steps of one of
e college buildings in New Haven. When asked the
use, he replied that he wept because, while he saw so
ıny young men being educated around him, there was
one to teach him. The lad was Obookiah, an
awaiian boy, who had arrived in New Haven on an
nerican ship, on which he had sailed from his
me. The interest aroused by his desire for knowledge
l to the establishment of a school for heathen youth at
ırnwall, Conn., and this in turn resulted in the sending
missionaries by the American Board to the Sandwich
lands. On their arrival, in 1820, they found the way
ɔst wonderfully prepared for them, the natives having
st destroyed their idols and being quite ready to receive
e Christian religion. The whole story of the Sandwich
land mission is of extraordinary interest. There are now
,360 church members in fifty-seven churches, most of
em with native pastors, and the islands are almost
tirely Christianized.

> **Those who, through time, in savage darkness lay,**
> **Wake to new light, and hail the promised day.**
>
> —JOEL BARLOW.

1884

MONDAY

November 3

Bryant's Birthday, 1794–1878.—In the little village of Cummington, Mass., William Cullen Bryant, one of the most representative of American poets, was born **ninety years ago to-day.** When only ten years old, he published translations from the Latin poets, and when thirteen wrote a vigorous political satire, *The Embargo. Thanatopsis*, one of his finest poems, was written when he was eighteen, and first published in the *North American Review* in 1817. Bryant studied at Williams College, practised law for ten years, and in 1826 assumed the editorship of the New York *Evening Post*, with which he was connected till his death in 1878. His poems are pervaded by his love of nature and freedom. His strength lies in his descriptive powers, in his serene and elevated philosophy, and in the noble simplicity of his language rather than in spontaneous bursts of sentiment or passion.

Bryant never wrote a poem which was not winged with a high moral purpose.—JOHN BIGELOW.

Our Country's earliest Bard!
For all he sang survives
In stream, and tree, and bird, and mountain crest,
And consecration of uplifted lives
To Duty's stern behest. —BAYARD TAYLOR.

1884

TUESDAY

November 4

Presidential Election Day.—The President of the United States is elected once in four years by electors who are chosen by each State, on the **first Tuesday after the first Monday** in November. Each State is entitled to as many electors as it has senators and representatives in Congress. The electors meet at their respective capitals on the first Wednesday in January after their election, and send their votes for President sealed, to the President of the United States Senate, who opens them in Congress on the second Wednesday in February following, and declares the result. The Vice-President is elected at the same time in the same way. The President must be a native of the United States, and over thirty-five years of age. He receives $50,000 a year for his services, and is forbidden during office to receive any further emolument. He is commander-in-chief of the army and navy, and appoints all public officers. In order to become a law, every bill which passes Congress must have his signature, unless, after he has returned it with his objections, two thirds of each House shall vote in its favor.

1884

WEDNESDAY

November 5

Early American Artists.—In 1771 Dr. Franklin wrote: "The Arts have always travelled westward; and there is no doubt of their flourishing hereafter on our side of the Atlantic." The earliest and best portraits painted in America were those of Smybert, who came with Bishop Berkeley to Rhode Island, and afterward lived in Boston till his death in 1751. His paintings and copies gave the first impulse to several of our early American artists, among whom was John Copley (1737–1815), the first and only native painter of real skill before the Revolution. A little later came Benjamin West (1738–1820), the Quaker boy who left the woods of America to become the President of the Royal Academy in London. Wilson Peale (1741–1826) was the earliest portrait-painter of Washington and his contemporaries. The eccentric Jarvis (1780–1840), and the original and popular Gilbert Stuart (1756–1828), contributed greatly to American art, which, however, reached a higher excellence in the portraits of Colonel John Trumbull (1756–1843), the soldier and artist of the Revolution, and a higher still in those of Washington Allston, born **November 5, 1779** and died 1843, the last and greatest of our early artists.

> Then shall be sung another golden age,
> The rise of empire and of arts,
> The good and great inspiring epics rage.
> The wisest heads and noblest hearts.

Bishop BERKELEY "*On the Prospect of Planting Arts and Learning in America.*"

1884

THURSDAY

November 6

Modern Republican Party, 1856.—After the death of Webster and Clay in 1852, the old dividing line between Whigs and Democrats became gradually less distinct, and with new political questions arose a reorganization of parties. The Wilmot proviso of 1846, which aimed to prohibit slavery in all new territories, gave rise to a "Free-soil party." Seven years later the Kansas and Nebraska bill met with the opposition of the "Northern Whigs" (the old Federalist party), who changed their name to "Anti-Nebraska Men." Early in 1856 the latter party adopted the name of "Republicans." Their great party principle was opposition to the extension of the slave-holding interest, and comprised all the Free-soilers and those Democrats who opposed slavery in the territories. Among its most prominent originators were Salmon P. Chase the late Chief-Justice, and Governor Seward, of New York. The Republican party nearly achieved the election of their presidential candidate, Fremont, in 1856, but did not finally come into power until the election of President Lincoln, **twenty-four years ago this month.**

1884

FRIDAY

November 7

The Alton Tragedy, 1837.—Though the anti-slavery agitation during Jackson's and Van Buren's administrations steadily increased, it at first met with bitter oppositions, even in the North and West, as well as in the South. Slavery mobs broke up a meeting of the Boston Female Anti-slavery Society, dragging W. L. Garrison through the streets with a rope around his body. Pennsylvania Hall, in Philadelphia, where an anti-slavery convention had met, was burned. Schools for colored children in New Hampshire and Connecticut were broken up, one of which, kept by Miss Crandall, in Canterbury, Conn., was treated in an especially barbarous manner. The excitement culminated when the Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy, who edited an anti-slavery newspaper, at Alton, Ill., was killed by a mob on **November 7, 1837.** This event gave to the cause of anti-slavery at least one convert, whose name was afterward known as one of the foremost champions of the anti-slavery cause—Wendell Phillips, of Boston.

> Oh, speed the moment on
> When wrong shall cease, and Liberty and Love
> And Truth and Right throughout the earth be known
> As in their home above. —WHITTIER.

1884

SATURDAY

November 8

The Trent Affair, 1861.—An event occurred **enty-three years ago to-day,** which nearly in-ved the United States in a war with England. Two ıfederate commissioners—Messrs. Mason and Slidell, 'e taken by Captain Wilkes, of the United States ate *San Jacinto* from the British mail steamer *Trent*, le on their way to their respective missions to Eng-d and France. Great wrath being expressed in Eng-d at this "insult to the British flag"—serious ıble was only averted by President Lincoln's speedy ıvowal of the act, and the surrender of the envoys, ch peaceful ending of the affair greatly disappointed Confederates.

Mason's Work.

One more unfortunate! poor F.F.V.
Rashly importunate, caught out at sea!
You dreamed not of capture, while with Johnny Bull;
You thought if we tried it, we 'd have our hands full!
But when Uncle Samuel appeared on your track,
And gave you his thunder, to which you knocked under,
Oh! is it a wonder you were *taken aback?*

—*Brooklyn Times*, Dec. 3, 1861.

1884

SUNDAY

November 9

Church Music in the United States.—Before 1825 the history of music in this country was almost entirely that of church music. It originated in the quaint and primitive psalm-singing of the Puritans, who, from 1620 to 1693, used "Ainsworth's Psalter," brought over from England. Then the Bay Psalm-book was employed, of which the New England revision of 1643 was one of the first books printed in America. Toward the end of that century, the art of singing by note was acquired, at which "all were amazed and still more astonished that all could finish a tune together." In 1721 the first book of music, with bars to divide the notes, was published, and in 1764 a collection of one hundred and sixteen tunes, engraved by Paul Revere. A new era in American church music was opened in 1770, by a book of original tunes, composed by Wm. Billings—the first American who published an original composition. He was a zealous patriot, and his melodies did much to excite the spirit of liberty. The life-long exertions of Thos. Hastings and Lowell Mason (1792–1872) greatly advanced the musical culture of the country, and the work of the latter especially deserves the gratitude of New Englanders.

1884

'MONDAY

November 10

he Boston Fire, 1872.—The great fire in Boston n at the corner of Summer and Kingston streets, and ed continuously on **Nov. 9 and 10, 1872.** The ed district extended over sixty acres in the heart of :ity, and included 776 buildings, many of them being argest granite and brick warehouses in the city. The ıter was aggravated by an epidemic which had dis- ɪ all the horses, so that the fire-engines had to be 'n by men. The loss was about seventy-five million ırs, but within four years the burned district was re- more substantially than before.

O broad-breasted Queen among nations,
  O Mother, so strong in thy youth!
Has the Lord looked upon thee in ire,
And willed thou be chastened by fire,
  Without any ruth?

One year since thy youngest was stricken;
  The eldest lies stricken to-day.
Ah! God, was Thy wrath without pity,
To tear the strong heart from our city,
  And cast it away?

J. B. O'Reilley on *The Great Fire of Nov. 9, 1872.*

1884

TUESDAY

November 11

Common Schools in the U. S.—When Connecticut, **years ago to-day** (Nov. 11, 1795), devoted the 200,000, obtained from the sale of her Western reserve ds, to the establishment of a school fund, the present tem of common schools in the U. S. received its first ɔetus. Massachusetts made a similar use of her lands Maine, and soon most of the States established funds the same purpose. In the West, the government has en assistance, by grants of land for school funds, to the ount of $60,000,000. Each State controls its own .ools, and regulates the attendance of children within cified ages, which is in most States compelled by law. .til after the Civil War there was no well-ordered system :he Southern States, but $3,000,000 of the great Peabody ıcational fund has greatly remedied that lack, and re is now no State or territory without its public ıools. In 1867 the Educational Bureau was established Washington, and by its report for 1881 there were ırly ten million children enrolled in the public schools, ich cost nearly eighty-five millions of dollars.

Were half the power, that fills the world with terror,
Were half the wealth, bestowed on camps and courts,
Given to redeem the human mind from error,
There were no need of arsenals nor forts.

—LONGFELLOW.

1884

WEDNESDAY

November 12

ail, Columbia! Happy Land!—The author of our :t popular national song was Joseph Hopkinson, who born **Nov. 12, 1778.** In the year 1798 a war be- n France and the U. S. was thought to be inevitable, ew of the many insults which our government and en received from the French Republic. The coun- as divided into French and English partisans of the then raging between England and France, and the of an American spirit which should be independent id above the wars of other nations was strongly felt. is to furnish a song which should unite all parties in spirit, that Hopkinson wrote the following lines, h were first sung by an actor named Fox, in 1798, immediately gained a wonderful popularity.

Hail, Columbia! happy land!
Hail, ye heroes! heaven-born band!
Who fought and bled in Freedom's cause;
Let Independence be our boast,
Ever mindful what it cost;
Ever grateful for the prize,
Let its altar reach the skies.

Firm, united, let us be,
Rallying round our liberty;
As a band of brothers joined,
Peace and safety we shall find.

Etc., etc.

1884

THURSDAY

November 13

Canadian Rebellion, 1837–1838.—During President an Buren's administration, an insurrection broke out in anada against English authority, which many people of .e United States, and particularly those on the New ork border, attempted to aid. In spite of a proclama- on from the President to abstain from such interference, steamer plied between New York and Canada across ıe Niagara River with provisions for the insurgents. It as at last captured by Canadian loyalists, and having een set on fire was allowed to drift over Niagara Falls. Iany other schemes of assistance were effected, and on **Iovember 13, 1838**, a large number of inhabitants of ıe United States joined with some Canadians in an ttempt to take the town of Prescott in Upper Canada. Iost of them were killed or forced to surrender, and t last a second proclamation from the President had its ue effect. The boundary line between Maine and New ırunswick was also a great cause of trouble, but the uthority of the government was respected and the danger f war passed by.

1884

FRIDAY

November 14

:ol. John Trumbull, 1756–1843.—John Trumbull, artist of the American Revolution, was a son of rother Jonathan" Trumbull, and brother of Washing-'s aide-de-camp. He was born in Lebanon, Conn., in 6, graduated at Harvard, fought bravely in the Revolu-ı, and in 1780, was studying as an artist with Benjamin st, in London, when he was thrown into prison on ount of the excitement over Major André's execution. was released after eight months on condition of leav- England, which he was however again allowed to t at the close of the war. In 1786, he began a series ıistorical pictures, which have now become very valu-e. He painted several portraits of Washington and ny other Revolutionary heroes, besides the four large ional pictures in the Capitol at Washington. His lery of 57 historical pictures he transferred to Yale lege, receiving in exchange a pension for life. **In vember, 1843,** "this accomplished scholar, enlight-d and unswerving patriot, eminent artist, and ineator of American history," died in the eighty-eighth r of his age.

1884

SATURDAY

November 15

Confederation, 1777.—On the 15th of November, '77, articles of "Confederation and perpetual union" ere signed at Yorktown, by all of the 13 States but aryland, who did not join them till 1781.

Here come the old original Thirteen !
Sir Walter ushers in the Virgin Queen ;
Catholic Mary follows her, whose land
Smiles on soft Chesapeake from either strand :
Then Georgia, with the sisters Caroline,—
One the palmetto wears, and one the pine ;
Next, she who ascertained the rights of men
Not by the sword but by the word of Penn ;
Then, she whose mother was a thrifty vrouw,—
Mother herself of princely children now ;
And, sitting at her feet, the sisters twain,—
Two smaller links in the Atlantic chain ;
Comes the free mountain maid, in white and green ;
One guards the Charter Oak with lofty mien ;
And lo ! in the plain beauty once she wore,
The pilgrim mother from the Bay State shore ;
And last, not least, is little Rhody seen,
With face turned heavenward, steadfast and serene.

—C. T. Brooks.

1884

SUNDAY

November 16

Universalists and Unitarians in the United States.—The first Universalist church in the United States was organized by the Rev. John Murray at Gloucester, Mass., 1780, although its doctrines had been advocated in America by Bienville in 1741, by Richard Clarke in South Carolina, and by Dr. Mayhew in Boston in 1762. The first convention of Universalist ministers was held in 1785, and since that time its number of churches has grown to be over 700, with 26,238 members.

About the middle of the last century Arian views of Christ were widely spread in New England, but the first Unitarian church was organized in Boston by Mr. James Freeman in 1787. About 1812 arose a great discussion on the subject between Dr. Worcester and Prof. Stuart, on one side, and Dr. Channing and Prof. Ware on the other, which ultimately resulted in the organization of many new Unitarian churches, and since that time Boston has been the stronghold of Unitarianism in America. The name was little used until about 1815. In 1880 there were in the United States 394 Unitarian churches, with 17,960 members.

1884

MONDAY

November 17

Congress First Meets in Washington, 1800.—New York City was the first capital of the United States, Philadelphia the second, and on the **17th of November, 1800,** when Congress met for the first time in Washington, that city became the third. By an act of Congress in 1790, a tract of one hundred square miles was set apart for the seat of government, and two years later the present city was laid out by Washington after the plan of the French capital, Versailles. It was called by him the "Federal City," but after his death received his own name. The design was so grand, and its growth at first so small, that it was long called "The city of magnificent distances." Even in 1839 an English traveller called it a "large straggling village reared in a drained swamp." The corner-stone of the Capitol was laid by Washington in September, 1793, and the new wings were dedicated by Daniel Webster in 1851. The President's house was partly burned by the British in 1814, and its blackened walls being painted white gave it the name of the *White House.*

1884

TUESDAY

November 18

Credit Mobilier.—The original Credit Mobilier organization, from which the American company took its name, was established at Paris **November 18, 1852,** and finally failed in 1867. In 1863, a similar company for loan and contract business was organized in Pennsylvania, which in 1867 fell into the hands of the contractors for the construction of the Union Pacific Railroad. The stock was increased to nearly four millions, and the dividends became enormous. As the building of the railroad was greatly assisted by grants of land from Congress, it was highly improper that Congressmen should have a pecuniary interest in the concern, but an investigation in 1872 showed that several members had possessed stock. Many charges were made, the expulsion of one senator was recommended, two representatives were censured and many other charges were made, but so promiscuously that many were unjustly accused.

1884

WEDNESDAY

November 19

Garfield's Birthday, 1831.—Every one knows so well the main events of the life of James Abram Garfield, —how, from the position of canal-driver, he rose to be a college graduate, teacher, lawyer, college president, military general, Congressman, Senator, and U. S. President—that instead of a repetition here, let his own words speak for themselves: "I would rather be beaten in Right than succeed in Wrong." "I am afraid to do a mean thing." "I think the main point is to look upon life with a view of doing as much good to others as possible." "There is no American boy, however poor or humble, that, if he have a clear head, a true heart, a strong arm, may not rise through all the grades of society, and become the crown, the glory, the pillar of the State." "This public life is a weary, wearing one, that leaves one little time for quiet reflection; but I hope I have lost none of my desire to be a true man and keep before me the character of the great Nazarene."

O Garfield! brave and patient soul!
Long as the tireless tides shall roll
About the Long Branch beaches, where
Thy life went out upon the air,
So long thy land, from sea to sea,
Will hold thy manhood's legacy.

—M. P. Savage.

1884

THURSDAY

November 20

:apt. John Smith.—" John Smith was the Father of ginia, the true leader who first planted the Saxon race ıin the borders of the United States" (Bancroft). :ording to his own account, his early life was full of ıance and perils. Born in England, in 1579, he served nany European wars, was taken prisoner by the Turks, / his master, and escaped through Russia. After ıy other thrilling adventures, he returned to England, :re Gosnold persuaded him to join the colony for ginia, which sailed in **December, 1606.** He soon ame the leader of the colonists, and several times :d them from ruin by his decision and sagacity of racter, his bravery as a soldier, and his wise dealings ı the Indians. The well-known story of his life being :d by Pocahontas has been doubted, but there was uestionably such a person, who afterward married fe, an Englishman. Capt. Smith's services were not perly appreciated, and he returned to England in 9. He afterward made a voyage to New England, to ch he gave its name, and wrote several books on erica before his death in 1631.

The mighty shade now hovers round,
  Of him whose strange yet bright, career
Is written on this sacred ground
  In letters that no time shall sere;
Who in the Old World smote the turbaned crew,
And founded Christian empires in the New.

—PAULDING'S *Ode to Jamestown.*

1884

FRIDAY

November 21

Fridays in American History.

Friday, long regarded as a day of ill omen, has been an *eventful* one in American history.

Friday, Columbus sailed on his voyage of discovery.

Friday, ten weeks after, he discovered America.

Friday, Henry III of England gave John Cabot his commission, which led to the discovery of North America.

Friday, St. Augustine, the oldest town in the United States, was founded.

Friday, the *Mayflower*, with the Pilgrims, arrived at Plymouth; and on Friday they signed that august compact, the forerunner of the present Constitution.

Friday, George Washington was born.

Friday, Bunker Hill was seized and fortified.

Friday, the surrender of Saratoga was made.

Friday, Cornwallis surrendered at Yorktown; and on Friday the motion was made in Congress that the United Colonies were, and of right ought to be, free and independent. Americans surely ought not to be afraid of Friday.

—KATE SANBORN.

1884

SATURDAY

November 22

Hampton Institute.—It is estimated that since the war nearly ten million dollars have been expended on the education of the colored race in the United States, through the efforts of the American Missionary Association, the Freedman's Aid Society, etc. One of the most important results of the labors of the American Missionary Association was the establishment of a school on lands purchased near the town of Hampton, Virginia, in 1867. Through the untiring labors of Gen. S.C. Armstrong, its principal, the school has grown to a large normal and agricultural institute, which has been of incalculable advantage to the freedmen, who can there receive their education and pay their way by manual labor. Up to 1880, the institute had taught nearly fifteen hundred pupils, of which three hundred and fifty-three had graduated. Ninety per cent. of the number have become teachers of their own race, and in the one year, 1879–80, instructed from 10,000 to 20,000 colored children.

Old forms remould, and substitute
For slavery's lash the freeman's will,
For blind routine, wise-handed skill;
A school-house plant on every hill,
Stretching in radiate nerve-lines thence
The quick wires of intelligence;
Till North and South, together brought,
Shall own the same electric thought.

—Whittier.

1884

SUNDAY

November 23

The Pilgrim's Covenant, November 22, 1620.—"In the name of God, Amen. We whose names are undermentioned, the loyal subjects of our dread sovereign King James, by the grace of God, etc., having undertaken, for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our king and country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the Northern parts of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God and of one another, covenant and combine ourselves into a civil body, politic, for our better ordering and preservation, and furtherance of the ends aforesaid, and by virtue hereof, to enact, constitute, and frame such just and equal laws, ordinances, acts, constitutions, and offices, from time to time, as shall be thought most meet and convenient for the general good of the colony, unto which we promise all due submission and obedience."

While the *Mayflower* was passing Cape Cod and seeking an anchorage, in the midst of the storm, her brave passengers sat down in the little cabin, and drafted and signed a covenant which contains the germ of American liberty.—GARFIELD.

In the cabin of the *Mayflower* humanity recovered its rights, and instituted government on the basis of "equal laws" for "the general good."—BANCROFT.

1884

MONDAY

November 24

Taylor, President, 1849–1850.—Zachary Taylor
s born in Virginia **one hundred years ago to-day,**
: his father removing to Kentucky when he was a boy,
after-life was identified with that State. In the War
1812, and in the later Indian wars on the frontier, he
l already distinguished himself, long before the Mexi-
ı War, which established his reputation as a great gen-
l. His soldiers were devoted to him, and their name for
ı, "Old Rough-and-Ready," became the rallying-cry of
Whigs, who elected him President in 1848. During his
n of office occurred the Cuban expedition of Lopez,
l the death of Calhoun, but the great question which oc-
ıied all minds, was whether California should be received
a free or a slave State. The South insisted that if free,
would infringe upon the Missouri Compromise which
North declared applied only to the Louisiana purchase.
nry Clay, acting as peacemaker, effected a compromise
the "Omnibus Bill" of 1850, which delayed for ten
.rs the Civil War. While the bill was being discussed,
:sident Taylor died after only sixteen months of office,
last words being: "I have tried to do my duty; I am
: afraid to die."

1884

TUESDAY

November 25

Evacuation of New York, 1783.—The **25th of November** is still observed in New York as "Evacuation Day,"—that on which the British troops left the city, which they had occupied ever since the 15th of September, 1776. On the same day Washington entered, and the British flag, which had been nailed to the flag-staff of Fort George, was replaced by the stars and stripes of the young Republic. Nine days later, Washington took leave of his officers "with a heart full of love and gratitude," wishing that their latter days might be "prosperous and happy as their former ones had been glorious and honorable." Of the house which he occupied in New York at this time, William Hosmer writes:

> The place is hallowed;—Washington once trod,
> Planning the fall of tyranny, these floors;
> Within yon chamber did he bend the knee,
> Calling on God to aid the patriot's cause,
> At morn and in the solemn hour of night.
> Here towered in warlike garb his stately form,
> While marshalled thousands in the dusty street
> Gave ear to his harangue, and inly vowed
> To die or conquer with their matchless chief.

1884

WEDNESDAY

November 26

American Journalism.—The American press is now one of the most powerful influences in the country, and has a far greater circulation in extent, variety, and in the ratio to population than that of any other country in the world. The number of journals in the United States "is about the same as in all the world besides, while the aggregate circulation is at least one third more." In 1870 we had one newspaper to every 6,525 inhabitants, while the rest of the world averaged one for every 200,000, and for every one sold in Great Britain or France that year there were more than four in the United States. The great American inventions of improved printing—such as Hoe's steam rotary press, etc., the low prices of newspapers, the wonderful facility in acquiring news, the establishment of the Associated Press,—all these causes have rendered possible the present enormous circulation of American newspapers. In 1880 there were 11,400 newspapers and magazines in the United States, with a circulation of 31,177,924.

Then hail to the Press ! chosen guardian of freedom !
Strong sword-arm of Justice ! bright sunbeam of truth !
We pledge to her cause (and she has but to need them)
The strength of our manhood, the fire of our youth.

—H. Greeley.

1884

THURSDAY

November 27

Thanksgiving-Day, 1621.—During the first winter of the Plymouth colonists, they suffered great hardships, sickness, hunger, and cold; but the following summer, 1621, "there was no want, for the harvest of Indian corn, of peas and barley, was fine, and the store of wild turkeys and other fowl plentiful." The Puritans were so thankful they kept a three-days' feast of thanksgiving after the harvest, during which they entertained and fed nearly a hundred Indians. Leonard Bacon says: "The New England autumnal feast, now kept with gladness in the homes, and with worship in the churches, all the way from Plymouth to the Golden Gate, began spontaneously when the Pilgrim remnant had harvested their first crop of Indian corn."

Ah! on Thanksgiving-Day, when from East and from West,
From North and from South come the pilgrim and guest;
When the gray-haired New-Englander sees round his board
The old broken limbs of affection restored,
What moistens the lip, and what brightens the eye;
What calls back the past, like the rich pumpkin pie?

—WHITTIER.

1884

FRIDAY

November 28

Missouri Admitted, 1821.— Missouri, meaning *Muddy Waters*, the Indian name of its river, was originally part of the great Louisiana territory sold by France to the United States in 1803. As early as 1720 its lead mines attracted attention, but the first settlement in its great prairie-covered regions was made in 1755 at St. Genevieve. After several divisions in the Louisiana territory, Missouri was organized as a separate territory about 1817, and its population soon numbering 60,000, it applied to Congress for permission to form a State constitution. The important question whether any more slave States should be admitted was at last settled by the Missouri Compromise of 1820, and in **August** of the next year Missouri was admitted to the Union as a slave-holding State. During the Civil War it was torn by conflicts, part of its inhabitants advocating and part opposing secession, but the Union forces at last restored order. Its capital is Jefferson City.

> Beyond, the prairie's sea-like swells surpass
> The Tartar's marvels of his Land of Grass ;
> Vast as the sky against whose sunset shores
> Wave after wave the billowy greenness pours.
>
> —WHITTIER.

1884

SATURDAY

November 29

Gen. "Stonewall" Jackson, 1824–1863.—Jonathan .omas Jackson, second only to Lee among the Confeder- heroes of the Civil War, was born in West Virginia ty-four years ago. He graduated at West Point, served lantly in the Mexican War, and in 1861 tendered his vices to the Confederacy. His firm stand at the battle Bull Run, in 1861, changed the fortunes of the day and ned for him the *sobriquet* of "Stonewall"; Gen. Bee ling out to his men during the battle: "There is Jackson nding like a stone wall; rally behind the Virginians." .ving fought bravely in many battles, he was at last ac- entally shot and killed by his own men on his return m the battle-field of Chancellorsville, in May, 1863. 'he mighty enthusiasm with which he inspired soldiers l people, his unbroken success with limited means, gave his career the character of a romance." "He was a n of intense convictions, deep moral earnestness, and ceeding vigor and promptness of action."

Up the street came the rebel tread,
Stonewall Jackson riding ahead. —WHITTIER.

We see him now, the old slouched hat
Cocked o'er his eye askew;
The shrewd, dry smile; the speech so pat,
So calm, so blunt, so true.
The foe had better ne'er been born
That gets in "Stonewall's" way. —ANON.

1884

SUNDAY

November 30

Thanksgiving Hymn.

Great God of nations ! now to Thee
  Our hymn of gratitude we raise ;
With humble heart and bending knee,
  We offer Thee our song of praise.

Thy name we bless, Almighty God !
  For all the kindness Thou hast shown
To this fair land the Pilgrims trod,—
  This land we fondly call our own.

Here, freedom spreads her banner wide,
  And casts her soft and hallowed ray ;
Here, Thou our fathers' steps didst guide
  In safety, through their dangerous way.

We praise Thee, that the gospel's light
  Through all our land its radiance sheds ;
Dispels the shades of error's night,
  And heavenly blessings round us spreads.

—ANON.

1884

MONDAY

December 1

ɔngress Meets.—The Congress of the United :s, which annually assembles **on the first Monday)ecember,** consists of a Senate and a House of ·esentatives. Senators are elected by State legisla- two from each State; they must be at least thirty ; of age. Their term of office is six years, and their .al salary $5,000. The Vice-President presides in Senate, which has, besides other privileges, the sole of trying impeachments.

:presentatives are chosen by popular vote, one for / 154,325 inhabitants. They must be twenty-five ; of age, and for six years citizens of the United :s. Their term of office is two years, and their .al salary $5,000. In 1883 there were 76 senators 325 representatives.

: most alarming feature of our situation is the fact that so citizens of high character and solid judgment pay but little ion to the sources of political power, to the selection of those hall make their laws.—GARFIELD.

Upon our grand Congress may Heaven bestow
Both wisdom and skill our good to pursue;
On Heaven alone, dependent we 'll be,
But from all earthly tyrants we mean to be free.

—*Old Ballad*, 1776.

" Give them staunch honesty,
Teach them true liberty,
Help them to hold the right,
Give them both truth and might,
Lord of all life and light! ".

1884

TUESDAY

December 2

hn Brown Hung.—Twenty-five years ago to-day Brown was hung—an honest, upright man, whose :cessful attempt to put down slavery precipitated Civil War. As a Kansas emigrant, he was distin-ed for his bravery in the "Border Riots." As as 1857 he considered the extirpation of slavery as ission in life. Collecting a few men and arms, and ed by Boston friends, he began his long-projected of rousing the Virginia slaves by an attack on the :d States arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Va. With only y men he took possession of the arsenal, freed al slaves, and held the town for thirty hours. But xpected co-operation of the slaves did not follow, he government troops soon recaptured the arsenal. n and his three surviving followers were taken to nd a few days later Brown was tried, and sentenced hung. Though unsuccessful and ill-timed, Brown's attempt made his memory dear to the hearts of ıern soldiers, and during the war which followed a regiment marched to the refrain,—

"John Brown's body lies a-mouldering in the grave,
But his soul goes marching on!"

1884

WEDNESDAY

December 3

Monroe Doctrine, 1823.—In the early part of the century many new republics were formed in South America which had hard struggles to maintain their freedom from European oppression. They aroused the sympathy of the people of the United States, and President Monroe, in his message, **sixty-one years ago yesterday,** declared "that the American continents were thenceforth not to be considered as subjects for future colonization by any European power"; that Europe should never meddle with American affairs; and that the people of the different parts of the continent should govern themselves. This is the famous "Monroe Doctrine," which has since been so often discussed, and especially of late years, with reference to the Panama Canal. It has been called the second Declaration of Independence.

> Comes out in his message in thundering tone
> And says all he wants is to be let alone. —ANON.

> Let them bring all the vassals of Europe in arms;
> We 're a world by ourselves. —R. T. PAINE.

1884

THURSDAY

December 4

Washington Takes Leave of his Officers, 1783.—The Revolutionary War was terminated by the Treaty of Paris, signed in September, 1783. The last of November the British troops left New York, which was entered by the Americans on the same day. The army had been disbanded on November 3, 1783, and nothing now remained but for Washington to bid farewell to his officers. This he did in New York City, **101 years ago to-day,** after an affectionate address, in which he said: "With a heart full of love and gratitude I now take leave of you. I most devoutly wish that your latter days may be as prosperous and happy as your former ones have been glorious and honorable." Tears moistened the eyes of nearly all, as they each bade Washington farewell. Before separating, they formed themselves into a friendly society called the *Cincinnati*, which was afterward much misrepresented by political enemies of the Federalist party.

Peace smiles at last; the Nation calls her sons
To sheathe the sword; her battle-flag she furls,
Speaks in glad thunders from unshotted guns,
And hides her rubies under milk-white pearls.

—O. W. Holmes.

1884

FRIDAY

December 5

Van Buren, President, 1837–1841.—Martin Van Buren, the eighth President of the United States, was born **December 5, 1782,** and became a lawyer and politician before he was of age. Having served as United States Senator and Governor of New York, his native State, he was sent by President Jackson, in 1831, as Minister to England; but after his arrival in that country the Senate refused to confirm his nomination, claiming that as Secretary of State the year previous his course had been unwise. In return for this "party persecution," the Democrats elected him Vice-President in 1832, and so President of the same Senate, and four years later he received the highest vote for President. His administration opened with the great financial panic of 1837, which led to the famous "sub-treasury scheme," the most important measure of his term of office. It required all public moneys to be kept, not in banks, but in the Treasury at Washington or in sub-treasuries, and forced all banks to secure their operations by depositing funds with the government. In 1837 occurred the Canadian rebellion, and in 1838 the departure of the Wilkes exploring expedition. The Seminole War in Florida and the founding of the Smithsonian Institution were also events of this time. Van Buren being defeated as a condidate for re-election, retired from politics in 1848 and died in 1862.

1884

SATURDAY

December 6

The American Anti-Slavery Society, 1833.—The origin of the American Anti-Slavery Society may be traced to the influence of a newspaper which was published in Boston in 1831 by William Lloyd Garrison. In the first number of *The Liberator*, whose purpose was to abolish slavery, Garrison wrote: "I am in earnest; I will not equivocate; I will not excuse; I will not retreat a single inch; and I will be heard." The next year a small association for the abolition of slavery was organized in Boston, and on **December 6, 1833,** occurred the first meeting of the American Anti-Slavery Society in Philadelphia. It took the boldest ground in favor of the abolition of slavery, and its work was for many years regarded as fanatical and hopelessly impracticable. Its presidents were Arthur Tappan, Lindley Coates, Garrison, and Wendell Phillips. For years it was almost universally denounced by the press, its meetings were broken up by mobs, and rewards offered in the South for the heads of its leaders. But it was both zealous and persistent, and many of its earliest members lived to see its mission fulfilled in the adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment, when the society disbanded, April 9, 1870.

The day's sharp strife is ended now,
Her work is done, God knoweth how!—WHITTIER.

1884

SUNDAY

December 7

The Great Revival of 1740.—In consequence of laws which allowed only church-members to vote, the early New England churches in 1657, adopted what was called the *Half-Way Covenant*, which authorized the baptism of the children of all baptized persons, though not regular church-members, who declared their belief in Christianity. All baptized persons were thence regarded as church-members, and the result was a large acquisition of formal members and a great decline in piety. In the early part of the eighteenth century Arminian views had pervaded many of the churches. In 1734, through the preaching of Edwards on justification by faith alone, 300 people were converted, and in a few years the revival of Calvinism in preaching and living spread through all the colonies. Whitefield and Edwards preached in New England, and the Tennents, Blair, and Dickinson in the Middle States. The results in New England alone were the addition of nearly 30,000 to the churches, the formation of 150 new churches between 1740-60, and of many Separatist and Baptist churches. Another great result of the movement was the breaking up of the doctrine of the *Half-Way Covenant*.

> The impulse spread like the outward course
> Of waters moved by a central force;
> The tide of spiritual life rolled down
> From inland mountains to seaboard town.—WHITTIER.

1884
MONDAY
December 8

Whitney's Cotton Gin, 1792.—Until the year 1792, the profits of the cotton trade which has since exerted such a powerful influence on American history, were very small, on account of the laborious process of "ginning," or separating the seed from the fibre of the cotton, of which only a pound a day could be ginned by one person. In that year, Eli Whitney, who was born in Massachusetts, **December 8, 1765**, and was a graduate of Yale, went to Georgia to teach school. While in the family of a Mrs. Greene, she noticed his mechanical ingenuity and begged him to try and invent a machine for ginning cotton. After several attempts, he finally succeeded in making a machine which accomplished its purpose so remarkably that a dishonest neighbor stole it from his shop and for many years prevented Whitney from reaping any pecuniary reward for his labor. Owing in a great measure to this invention, by which one workman can gin three hundred pounds of cotton, instead of one, a day, the United States has grown to be one of the principal cotton-supplying countries of the world.

Oh, magic Engine, sprung from Whitney's brain!
How strangely hast thou wrought both weal and woe!
What millions bound in slavery's galling chain!
Yet o'er the land made wealth and comfort flow!
E'en Civil War thou kindledst, yet its flame
Snapped Slavery's chain and set the millions free.
And so, thank God! sweet Peace with Freedom, came,
No more to be alarmed, but ever cheered by Thee.—C. S. L.

1884

TUESDAY

December 9

Robert Morris, 1734-1806.—Robert Morris, the "patriot financier" of Revolutionary times, was an Englishman who came to Philadelphia at the age of thirteen, and there began a wonderfully successful business career. At the beginning of the war of 1776 he had amassed an immense fortune, and his credit being much better than that of Congress, he was of great service to the government. Being made Superintendent of Finance in 1781, he supplied Washington with notes for $1,400,000 to defray the expenses of his campaign against Cornwallis. He also managed the affairs of the navy, and sent out many privateers at his own expense. In December of 1781 he established the "Bank of North America," which greatly relieved the financial embarrassments of the government. When Washington became President, he was offered the position of Secretary of the Treasury, but declined it in favor of Hamilton. When quite old Morris lost his large fortune, and in 1807 ended his life in a prison for debt, a sad end for a man "who had supplied the sinews of war by his own unquestioned credit.

1884

WEDNESDAY

December 10

Iississippi Admitted, 1817.—Although De Soto, in), and Joliet and Marquette, in 1673, first visited the on now known as the State of Mississippi, the first at- ot to establish a colony was made by a Frenchman ed Iberville, in 1706. With a large body of emigrants, ıding a military force, he made a settlement on the ent site of Natchez, calling the place Rosalie, in or of a French countess. In a few years it fell into hands of Law, the speculator, and when the "Louisi- Bubble" burst, came into the possession of the India ıpany, which added little to its growth. In 1729 a ter- : Indian massacre nearly exterminated that and other ements, 200 being killed and 500 captured at Rosalie e. Harassed by other similar Indian wars, the col- s led a struggling existence, till, at last, in 1763 the le region was ceded to England and immigration from Eastern States set rapidly in. All but the most south- part, on the coast, was organized as a territory in 1798, that being added in 1811, Mississippi was admitted State, **Dec. 10, 1817.**

Its course majestic through the land pursues,
And the broad River o'er the valley reigns!

—S. J. HALE, on *the Mississippi River.*

1884

THURSDAY

December 11

liana Admitted, 1816.—The early history of In-
. consists entirely of wars with the race from which
es its name. It was first settled by Canadian emi-
s in 1702, at Vincennes and other places. When it
into the possession of the United States, in 1763,
habitants were constantly harassed by Indians until
ral Wayne gained a temporary peace in 1794. In
arly part of the present century Indiana was organ-
as a separate territory, and in 1811 was the scene of
'ecumseh War, which was at last terminated by Gen-
Harrison at Tippecanoe. A few years later, another
eak of the Indians was suppressed, and the settlers
never afterward troubled by them. After the ad-
on of Indiana to the Union, **Dec. 11, 1816,** its
th in population and wealth was very rapid, being
ially aided by the opening of the great Erie Canal, in
Soon after that time the State began so many
s of public improvement that in the financial crisis of
it became bankrupt; but since 1846 its prosperity
een undisturbed.

Land of Rivers! Moving down
Slow through forest, farm, and town,
With his tributary streams
Beautiful in glooms and gleams,
Flows the Wabash! Hail to thee!

—*To Indiana.*

1884

FRIDAY

December 12

ıief-Justice Jay, 1745–1829.—John Jay, the first f-Justice of the United States, was born **139 years to-day** in New York City. Graduating at King's, Columbia, College, in 1764, he soon gained high re- as a lawyer, and attained powerful political influence. 774 he wrote the important *Address to the People of :t Britain*, from 1778–79 presided over the Conti- al Congress, and was then sent as Minister to Spain. vas one of the American Commissioners to obtain e with England, and was chiefly influential in bring- ıbout the treaty of 1783. Later he wrote several of *Federalist* papers in support of the Constitution. For ıese services to the Federal party, Washington offered his choice of offices in 1789, and he selected that of :f-Justice. In 1794 he went to England to negotiate :reaty which is known by his name, and which caused :at disturbance in the politics of the time. The next he resigned his seat on the supreme bench to accept governorship of New York, of which he had framed t of the State Constitution. He died in 1829, after a ; life of usefulness and service to his country.

O Jay ! deserving of a purer age,
Pride of thy country, statesman, patriot, sage !

—HONEYWOOD, 1765–1798.

1884

SATURDAY

December 13

Cities of the United States.—Of our American ies, New York, the *Empire City*, is the largest, with a pulation of 1,206,299. Philadelphia, the Quaker City, mes next with 847,170 inhabitants. Then Brooklyn, :h 566,663, Chicago with 503,185, Boston with 369,832, Louis with 350,518, and Baltimore with 332,313,— : seven cities of over 300,000 inhabitants. Then me Cincinnati, San Francisco, and New Orleans, with population of over 200,000. Next in size, are Cleve- ıd, Pittsburg, Buffalo, Washington, Newark, Louisville, rsey City, Detroit, Milwaukee, and Providence, all with ›re than 100,000 inhabitants. Chicago has grown far ›re rapidly than any other large city,—from a popula- ›n of 4,479 to half a million, in forty years. Concern- ; the rate of mortality in the different cities, in 1880 vannah, Ga., ranked highest, 32.6 deaths in every ousand of the population. Next came Charleston, S. , and Memphis, Tenn. The smallest death-rate was .3 in Yonkers, N. Y. The rate in New York was 26.7; Boston, 23.5; in Philadelphia, Chicago, Cincinnati, ıd Cleveland, about the same—20 and a fraction in every ooo inhabitants. St. Louis, San Francisco, New Haven, ichmond, Atlanta, and Erie have a still lower death- te.

> Now cities rise, and spiry towers increase,
> With gilded domes, and every art of peace.
>
> —DAVID HUMPHREYS.

1884

SUNDAY

December 14

Vashington's Death, 1799.—Scarcely had Wash-
:on retired to his home at Mount Vernon, hoping for a
›rous and peaceful old age after the toils of so many
rs, when a sudden illness ended his life in the sixty-
ıth year of his age, on the **14th of December, 1799.**
was mourned, not only by his countrymen, but even
British fleet lowered all its flags at receiving news of
death, and the French standards in the public service
e draped with mourning for ten days. The resolutions
sed by the House of Representatives, and written by
rshall, declared, in the well-known phrase, that he was
rst in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his
ntrymen."

In that dread moment, awfully serene,
No trace of suffering marked thy placid mien;
No groan, no murmuring 'plaint escaped thy tongue;
No longing shadows o'er thy brow were hung;
But, calm in Christian hope, undamped with fear,
Thou sawest the high reward of virtue near.
On that bright meed, in surest trust reposed,
As thy firm hand thine eyes expiring close,
Pleased, to the will of Heaven resigned thy breath,
And smiled, as nature's struggles closed in death.

—ALSOP on *The Death of Washington.*

1884

MONDAY

December 15

'he Hartford Convention, 1814–1815.—Exactly enty years ago to-day a Convention came together Hartford on an undertaking which resulted in the tical ruin of its members. On account of the unpopu- y of the war with England, the commercial distress ;ed by British vessels along the New England coasts, a general dissatisfaction with the National Government :h had not provided the States with sufficient means lefending their own borders, the Massachusetts Legis- re invited the New England States to send delegates convention at Hartford, for the purpose of conferring n the subject of their public grievances. The assem- met with closed doors for three weeks, and in their ›rt to their State Legislatures, denounced the origin management of the war, and recommended several ndments to the Constitution, chiefly to restrict the ımercial powers of Congress, and to prevent natural- . citizens from holding office. The peace which oc- :ed in 1815 put an end to the plans of the Convention, the unfortunate secrecy of its proceedings gave rise he popular rumor that it proposed a dissolution of the .on; and though its journal, published many years later, wed that no treason was designed, its Federal leaders er recovered from the stigma left by its mysterious ses-

1884

TUESDAY

December 16

'he Boston Tea Party, 1773.—One of the princi-
:vents which heralded the Revolution of 1776 was the
›ston Tea Party," which occurred on **Dec. 16, 1773.**
British Government had laid so unjust a tax on tea
the colonists determined to resist it. Seven
ısand citizens met in Boston and ordered the tea
ıght by those ships in the harbor not to be landed.
:r an ineffectual attempt to settle the difficulty satis-
›rily with the British Governor, Samuel Adams
ared: "This meeting can do nothing more to save
:ountry." The leaders adjourned to the Old South
rch. At evening a war-whoop was heard, and a band
ıen, disguised as Indians, went from the Church to
wharf, and seizing the tea ships which were
ıored there, threw 340 chests into the water. The
greatly roused the colonists and enraged Great
ain.

No! ne'er was mingled such a draught
In palace, hall, or arbor,
As freemen brewed and tyrants quaffed
That night in Boston harbor.

It kept King George so long awake
His brain at last got addled,
It made the nerves of Britain shake
With seven score million saddled.

—O. W Holmes.

1884

WEDNESDAY

December 17

Vhittier's Birthday, 1807.—John Greenleaf Whit- the Quaker poet, was born in Haverhill, Mass., **years ago to-day.** Till he was eighteen he ked on a farm and at shoemaking, and his only y advantages for study were acquired in two years local academy. At the age of twenty-two he edited oston paper, and in 1830 *The New England Weekly iew* in Hartford. Returning to his Massachusetts n in 1835, he was soon appointed secretary of the erican Anti-Slavery Society. Of the anti-slavery se he was an earnest champion, and his poems were of the most powerful aids in the overthrow of 'ery. In 1840 he removed to Amesbury, Mass., and since devoted himself to literature and philanthropy.

There is Whittier, whose swelling and vehement heart
Strains the strait-breasted drab of the Quaker apart,
And reveals the live man, still supreme and erect,
Underneath the bemummying wrappers of sect.
All honor and praise to the right-hearted bard
Who was true to *The Voice* when such service was hard,
Who himself was so free he dared sing for the slave
When to look but a protest in silence was brave.—LOWELL.

1884

THURSDAY

December 18

lavery Abolished.—The Thirteenth Amendment ıe Constitution was declared in force **on the 18th ›ecember, 1865.** It abolished slavery and involun- servitude, except as a punishment for crime, within United States or any place subject to their juris- on.

It is done!
Clang of bell and roar of gun
Send the tidings up and down.
How the belfries rock and reel!
How the great guns, peal on peal,
Fling the joy from town to town!

Ring, O bells!
Every stroke exulting tells
Of the burial hour of crime.
Loud and long, that all may hear,
Ring for every listening ear
Of Eternity and Time!

·om WHITTIER's *Laus Deo*, written on hearing the bells ring on assage of the Thirteenth Amendment.]

1884

FRIDAY

December 19

'alley Forge, 1777–1778.—Washington's army went winter-quarters **107 years ago to-day** at Valley ;e, twenty miles from Philadelphia, where for several ths they endured such sufferings "as our forefathers d not speak of without a shudder." The army, :h had been greatly reduced by illness and desertion, ı shrank to one half its original numbers. For want hoes or clothing, nearly three thousand men were at time unfit for duty. The army rations were soon ıusted, and by February the provisions of the neighıood also gave out; horses were dying for lack of l, and terrible fevers prevailed in the camp. Besides physical hardships of cold and suffering, Washington also to contend against secret plots by the soldiers ably the "Conway Cabal") and unjust treatment ı Congress. Through such sufferings was our liberty ıired.

"Such was the winter that prevailed
Within the crowded, frozen gorge;
Such were the horrors that assailed
The patriot band at Valley Forge.
It was a midnight storm of woes
To clear the sky for Freedom's morn;
And such must ever be the throes
The hour when Liberty is born."

1884

SATURDAY

December 20

herman's March to the Sea, 1864.—The main ıt of the campaign of 1864, and one of the most brill- movements of the Civil War, was General Sherman's ch through Georgia. His purpose was to cut off the ɔlies of the Confederates and break up their railroad munications. When his army of 60,000 men started hward from Atlanta, Ga., in May, no one at North knew its destination. During his famous march oo miles, to the sea, the army advanced in two col- ıs, subsisting entirely on the country as they went, ıking the rails, and leaving behind them a track of ɔlation sixty miles wide. During the entire march ugh the heart of the enemy's country, he lost only y-three killed and 245 wounded, proving that the Con- racy was indeed "an empty shell." **Twenty years ı to-day** the army reached Savannah, on the coast, the Confederates having evacuated it the same day, rman wrote to the President that he offered him as a istmas present, the city of Savannah.

We knew that the stars in our banner
More bright in their splendor would be,
And that blessings from Northland would greet us
When Sherman marched down to the sea.

—S. H. W. Brep

1884

SUNDAY

December 21

Landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, Dec. 21 1620.

O God ! beneath Thy guiding hand
  Our exiled fathers crossed the sea ;
And when they trod the wintry strand,
  With prayer and psalm they worshipped Thee.

Thou heard'st, well pleased, the song, the prayer ;
  Thy blessing came ; and still its power
Shall onward through all ages bear
  The memory of that holy hour.

Laws, freedom, truth, and faith in God
  Came with those exiles o'er the waves ;
And where their Pilgrim feet have trod,
  The God they trusted guards their graves.

And here Thy name, O God of love !
  Their children's children shall adore,
Till these eternal hills remove,
  And spring adorns the earth no more.

—Rev. LEONARD BACON, D.D., LL.D., 1802–1881.

1884

MONDAY

December 22

Landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, 1620.—er since 1769, the anniversary of the landing of Pilgrims at Plymouth has been celebrated on **22d of December,** owing to an error in adding ven instead of ten days to reduce the *old style date*, c. 11th, to the present mode of reckoning. On Dec. t, then, instead of the 22d, the *Mayflower*, with its cious freight of Pilgrims, arrived off Plymouth Rock er a perilous voyage of sixty-three days, from Holland, ence they had sailed to obtain freedom of religious rship. Instead of reaching the Hudson, which was ir original destination, they found themselves, at the l of their voyage, on the Massachusetts coast, where y sailed up and down for nearly a month before they nd a harbor at Plymouth, to which an earlier explorer, ot. John Smith, had given that name.

Ay ! call it holy ground,
  The soil where first they trod !
They have left unstained what there they found—
  Freedom to worship God.

—Mrs. Hemans.

1884

TUESDAY

December 23

Wisconsin Admitted, 1848.—Wisconsin, an Indian word meaning the "Gathering Place of Waters," was first settled by French missionaries from Canada in 1639, at Green Bay. During the next forty years, many settlements were made and active wars waged with the Indians to secure the lands. The whole region was ruled by the British as part of Canada till 1796, when it was ceded to the United States, and added to the "Northwest Territory," which was given to the Federal Government by different States at the close of the Revolution. In 1836 it was organized as a territory, then comprising Iowa, Minnesota, and part of Dakota, and was admitted to the Union in May, 1848, then ranking the 24th State in population, but owing to its wealth and industries, its growth has been so rapid as to give it the present rank of 14th.

"Away! far away! let us hope for the best,
And build up new homes in the Land of the West."

1884

WEDNESDAY

December 24

Colleges of the United States.

1st. Harvard, at Cambridge, Mass., founded 1638.
2d. William and Mary, in Virginia. 1693.
3d. Yale, at New Haven. 1701.
4th. College of New Jersey, at Princeton. 1746.
5th. Columbia, in New York City. 1754.
6th. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia. 1755.
7th. Brown University, Providence. 1764.
8th. Dartmouth, Hanover, N. H. 1769.
9th. Rutgers, New Brunswick, N. J. 1770.

Since the Revolution:

Williams College, Williamstown. 1793.
Bowdoin, Brunswick, Me. 1794.
Union College, Schenectady. 1795.
University of Virginia. 1819.
Amherst College. 1825.
University of Michigan. 1836.
Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. 1865.
John Hopkins University, Baltimore. 1876.

Besides these, there are 345 other colleges in the United States, with an increase of 72 in ten years.

The first medical school was founded in Philadelphia in 1764, and the first law school in Litchfield, Conn., in 1782.

I insist that it should be made an indispensable condition of graduation in every American college, that the student must understand the origin and history of the United States.—GARFIELD.

1884

THURSDAY

December 25

Christmas.—Christmas was never observed among e early settlers in New England, it being regarded as, the words of Cotton Mather, "one of the earliest ostasies and superstitions in the primitive times." adually the observance became general in the country, was already the case in the South, and the festival is w almost universally celebrated in the United States.

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
  And wild and sweet
  The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And thought how as the day had come
The belfries of old Christendom
  Had rolled along
  The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Till, ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
  A voice, a chime,
  A chant sublime
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

—LONG

1884

FRIDAY

December 26

Battle of Trenton, 1776.—On Christmas Day, **108 :ars ago,** occurred one of the bravest exploits of the :volution, which resulted on the following day in the ttle of Trenton. On account of the discouraging ents of the autumn campaign of 1776, Washington solved, by a daring enterprise, to raise the spirits his troops. He was in December encamped on the :laware River on the opposite side from Trenton, ıich was occupied by 1,500 Hessians and a troop of itish horse. While the Germans were engaged in ıristmas revellings on the night of the 25th, Washing-n, with one division of his men, crossed the river amid ow and sleet and blocks of ice, marched to Trenton d surprised the enemy, who, after the loss of their mmander, at once surrendered. By this brilliant hievement Washington lost but four men, and won the tire confidence of Congress and the people.

> **" On Christmas Day in seventy-six,**
> **Our ragged troops with bayonets fixed**
> **For Trenton marched away.**
> **Twelve hundred servile miscreants**
> **With all their colors, guns, and tents**
> **Were trophies of the day."**

1884

SATURDAY

December 27

Cotton Culture in the United States.—With the planting of a few cotton seeds by the Jamestown colonists, in 1621, began the culture of cotton in the United States, which is now one of our greatest sources of national wealth. Its easy growth attracted much interest in England, but it was not exported in any quantities for more than 150 years. Early books speak of "cotton-wool" as one of the products of "that happy country seated near the midst of the world, between the extremities of heat and cold." It at first spread north from Virginia, and was not planted in any of the more southern States until 1733. The first exportation of any importance was when 3,000 pounds of cotton were sent to England in 1770. Twenty-one years later the annual crop was two million pounds, and about that time a great impetus was given to the industry by Eli Whitney's invention of the cotton gin. The highest price which cotton has ever reached in this country was during the Civil War, when it rose to $1.90 per pound. In 1879, more than 162 million dollars' worth of raw cotton were exported from the United States, which now annually produces nearly three billion pounds, and is the greatest cotton-growing country in the world.

1884

MONDAY

December 29

lew Jersey.—New Jersey was first occupied by the :ch in 1614 as a part of the New Netherlands, and ugh both Swedes and English tried to settle, it re- ned in the possession of the Dutch till 1664, when h districts came under English rule. New Jersey was hat year sold by the Duke of York to two Englishmen, 'd Berkeley and Sir George Carteret, by whom it named from the British island of Jersey, of which teret had been governor. The first permanent town in ›orders was established at Elizabethtown, and named r his wife. "The Jerseys" (as the two divisions, t and West Jersey, were called) flourished for ıy years and enjoyed great freedom in religious affairs. m 1673 to 1674 they again passed into Dutch hands, after returning to the English, Berkeley sold half his itory to a Quaker, for $5,000, and East New Jersey also afterward purchased by Penn and other Quakers. er much trouble on account of the conflicting claims of prietors, New Jersey became a royal colony under :en Anne, in 1702, when the two provinces were :ed into one. Till Revolutionary times the colony was quiet and peaceful that it was said that, "in all its ders there is not a poor body nor one that wants." v Jersey ratified the Constitution **in December, 7.**

1884

TUESDAY

December 30

Liberty and Union in the United States.—"When my eyes shall be turned to behold, for the last time, the sun in heaven, may I not see him shining on the broken and dishonored fragments of a once glorious Union? Let their last feeble and lingering glance rather behold the gorgeous ensign of the Republic, now known and honored throughout the earth, still full high advanced, its arms and trophies streaming in their original lustre, not a stripe erased or polluted, nor a single star obscured, but everywhere, spread all over in characters of living light, blazing on all its ample folds, as they float over the sea and over the land, and in every wind under the whole heavens, the sentiment, dear to every true American heart,—Liberty *and* Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."—DANIEL WEBSTER, 1830.

Cast to the breeze that banner still,
With not one single star erased,
With not one single stripe effaced.
Shout, with a hearty, brave good-will,
Let nought our happy land dissever,—
The Union *one*, and one *forever!* —ANON.

God save the Union! Give the dawning year,
This proud baptismal anthem—let its last
Dissolving sigh be—Union undissolved!
—G. D. PRENTICE.

1884

EDNESDAY

)ecember 31

'uture of our Republic.—" Secure against
·om abroad, united at home by the stronger
nmon interest and patriotic pride, holding and
)ur vast territory by the most potent forces
:ion, relying upon the intelligent strength and
lity of each citizen, and, most of all, upon the
truth, without undue arrogance, we may hope
: centuries to come our Republic will continue
l hold its high place among the nations as
ıeir of all the ages in the foremost files of time.' "

—GARFIELD.

Iere the free spirit of mankind, at length,
'hrows its last fetters off ; and who shall place
ı limit to the giant's unchained strength,
)r curb his swiftness in the forward race ?
'n, like the comet's way through infinite space
tretches the long untravelled path of light,
ıto the depths of ages ; we may trace
far, the brightening glory of its flight,
ill the receding rays are lost to human sight.

—BRYANT.

And now, to you, the persevering few
Who this long Calendar have read all through,
And haste the last dull page to throw away,
Joyful to end your year-long task to-day,
Our thanks for your kind patience we extend,
And wish you Happy New Years without end.

INDEX

TO THE

Calendar of American Histo

INDEX.

INDEX.